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THURSDAY, JULY 30TH, 2009

Flying Vet's hunger strike

VALE 'Flying Vet' Maurice Kirk is on a protest hunger strike in Cardiff Prison, where he is remanded in custody to face two charges concerning a vintage World War 1 firearm.

His wife, Mrs Kirsty Kirk, told The GEM that her husband has been refusing food for 12 days and that she and their young daughter are "distressed and desperately worried" as Mr Kirk is 65 and in poor physical health.

She said that she had visited her aviator husband in prison and that he was "upset and frustrated" as he was anxious to make a personal appearance in court to defend himself against the charges.

In June he was charged with unlawfully possessing a Lewis machine gun and also attempting to sell it without proper authority.

Barry magistrates granted him conditional bail, but the prosecution appealed against this decision at Cardiff Crown Court and he was remanded in custody until



Maurice Kirk

July 6, and then again until September 1.

Before The GEM went to press yesterday, we contacted a spokesperson for the Prison Service in London who responded with this official statement:

"A prisoner at HMP Cardiff is refusing food. Guidance to prison staff on managing food refusal states that food refusal should

always be taken seriously.

"The prisoner should be helped to find constructive ways to meet his or her underlying need, for example through the application process, the Independent Monitoring Board, Request and Complaint procedure or contacting a lawyer or MP."

"A multi-disciplinary approach to managing those refusing food is encouraged, and healthcare staff should be involved at an early stage in order to assess the prisoner's physical and mental health."

"Healthcare staff may wish to involve their local Primary Care Trust for specialist dietary advice."

A spokesperson for Vale MP, Mr John Smith said: "I can confirm that Mr Smith has made representations to the Ministry of Justice and a reply is awaited."

"I am unable to give further information as this is a confidential matter between Mr Smith and his constituent."

Cowbridge rugby star marries at Holy Cross



There were enough rugby stars in Cowbridge last Saturday to put out four or five teams, as Welsh international Rhys Williams married Liz Challenor, the personal assistant to Robert Norster, chief executive of the Cardiff Blues region.

Rhys' father, Huw, told The GEM that it had been an "absolutely tip-top day", and that they had been lucky with the weather.

(SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE PICTURES BY IAN DIXON).

Road blocked after crash

THE road from Llyswoyney to the A 48 was blocked for more than an hour on Monday (July 27) after a car crashed.

A police spokeswoman said: "Emergency services were called at 7.44am. One vehicle was involved, a Vauxhall Astra, and there were no injuries."

"The vehicle was travelling between the A48 at Pentre Meurig and the village of Llyswoyney."

"The road was closed while the damaged car was removed."

Vale village residents look to the Assembly to protect their pubs

by PHILIP IRWIN

RESIDENTS in Llansannor are looking to the Assembly to introduce measures that could protect village pubs.

The call comes as their village pub, the City Inn, continues to deteriorate after the building ceased to operate as a pub. The building was bought by the Prisk Pub Co, and has been offered for sale (at an asking price of £650,000) but no buyers have come forward.

In recent years, the pub owner has made a number of planning applications, looking to combine a pub refurbishment with building new dwellings on the site - but these have either been turned down or withdrawn.

Now, the latest application seeks to convert the pub to a single dwelling with some external alterations. The planning committee on the Vale Council has deferred a decision on this application, pending a site visit, which is due to take place today (Thursday).

However, villagers in Llansannor feel that the story of the City Inn has wider implications for villages throughout Wales, and they have had support from the

local regional AM, Andrew RT Davies.

At issue is the fact that many village pubs come with a large area of land, either in car parking space, or gardens, or both. This makes them a tempting target for property developers - particularly at a time when a large number of pubs are closing on a UK-wide basis.

A Llansannor resident, Mark Jarvis, told The GEM: "The City Inn has never actually failed as a pub. There have been pubs going out of business, because landlords could not afford high rents when tied to a large pub chain, but most free houses are surviving, and the City Inn has always been a free house."

Another resident, Glyn Canter, said that he was disappointed with the latest application, which would see the village pub disappear for good if granted.

He said: "Once you lose a community asset, such as the village pub, it will never come back."

"It is disappointing, because the villagers have had two public meetings with the owner, and we felt hopeful that the pub could be saved, perhaps in a smaller form."

Andrew RT Davies AM told The GEM: "I



think that AMs need to push for tougher planning guidelines at the Assembly.

"The TAN guide notes should be toughened up to regard village pubs, which so often are a focal point of the community, as an asset which should be preserved and protected."

"If a developer was aware that it would be difficult to redevelop the land, they would be less likely to buy up pubs."

"The result would be that it would be more attractive then for people to buy it as a going concern and make a go of it."

"There would be an incentive then to look at ways that pubs could generate extra revenue."

The Vale Council report into the latest application reveals that the Prisk Pub Co bought the City Inn in

November 2006 for £410,000, and that it was later put on the market at an asking price of

£650,000.

Council officers appointed a firm of chartered surveyors who prepared a report, and this report said that at no point between November 2006 and the present day had the property been worth the £650,000 asking price, or "a value close to it".

The same report noted that the recent auction of the property, with a guide price of £450,000, was "totally unrealistic". The surveyors put the current value of the property at £250,000 to £275,000.

Mark Jarvis said: "The City Inn used to operate alongside the village hall as a hub of the community. The hall is still busy, and there is potential for a pub to stay in business."

The GEM attempted to contact the Prisk Pub Co. for a comment but, at the time of going to press, there had been no response.

COWBRIDGE traders may be asked to consider Sunday trading as a means of increasing footfall into the town.

Alun John told the annual meeting of Cowbridge Chamber of Trade that this was an option that should be explored.

Speaking afterwards to The GEM, Mr John said that he wanted to make the point at the meeting for people to think about.

"We have been doing Sunday opening for four Sundays in the run-up to Christmas, starting with the Reindeer Parade, but not all shops take part."

"People need to know that they can have the full shopping experience before they will come - it's no good having some shops dotted about that are open."

"We need to really go for the Sunday opening at Christmas this year and make it a success. We can then consider using this as a launch pad for extending the period."

Mr John stated that action was needed to encourage people to shop in Cowbridge because of the current recession.

"Obviously, most of the shops are family businesses and the owners are already working

five or six days a week. Sunday is a family day - it's the only day I can be with my family. But we have to compete against places like Culverhouse Cross and the Bridgend Designer Village."

"Everything is open there on Sundays and I understand that it is their busiest day throughout the year - not just at Christmas."

"Sunday is now a day people use for shopping, which has become a leisure activity. We need

to look at any way we can to bring more people to the town."

Mr John said that it could not be done in Cowbridge in a half-hearted way.

"We would need to get almost everyone on board including cafes, chemists and maybe the banks as well."

"People will want to know that they can get everything they need if they come, but it will take a lot of hard work to get agreement from so many different businesses."

Mr John pointed out that traders also open on the Sunday of the food and drink festival, and it may be possible in future to stay open from then through to Christmas.

"But this year, we must concentrate on making our existing Sunday openings a success and try to get all the businesses to open, so that people will have plenty of choice about where to shop."

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LONG LIVE OLD HALL!

WITH regard to The GEM report headlined 'Old Hall - a people trap?' I totally agree with the sentiment that the Old Hall is a jumble of small rooms and narrow corridors.

However, it is one of Cowbridge's oldest buildings, and rather than have people pass by admiringly, there is always an invitation to come in and see what's going on.

I have always found the staff very helpful and, even when I have taken my elderly mum there for a craft day or some other event - in a wheelchair no less! - the staff have been very

accommodating and will stay with her while I look upstairs.

I find the adult educational opportunities offered by the Old Hall a great benefit to people of my age, something I would not have been aware of had I not had the opportunity to go into the building.

My visits to Cowbridge are enhanced by the fact that something is usually going on in the Old Hall!

Yes it is cramped, but long may the council give us the opportunities to go into these old buildings and not restrict access so they just become part of the facade of Cowbridge - or even more flats!

Mrs Rosemary Wheeler, Ewenny

Action on litter

YOUR recent correspondent should not despair over litter but do something about it; there is an oldish person who (until he bought a foldup bike) used to pick up litter all the time.

Disabled aids can be bought in Lidl, occasionally for £3 or £4, and plastic bags are 2p in Filco. If we all picked up the bottles and cigarette packets, maybe those who drop them would be shamed into stopping this horrible habit.

(Name and address supplied)

'Another council is not necessary'

NO need for a Rhose Community council - we already have two paid councillors - Jeff James and Gordon Kemp.

How much would it cost to run an election, print ballot papers, pay clerks, hire a room and then pay councillors' expenses, and yet another hike in council tax?

In this economic climate, it just doesn't add up! Mrs Heveron, Rhose

EMAIL US!

● WE welcome your views, news and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

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'NO NEED FOR BUSINESS PARK AT MoD ST ATHAN'

THE headlines may be that the public have, in principle, supported the Defence College (DTC) coming to MoD St Athan, but the lack of support and, more importantly, information on the Welsh Assembly Government's plans to spend our money on an Aerospace Business Park and access roads is being ignored!

This is the main reason that the developers

cannot fit the DTC 'behind the wire' on the existing campus, as the local residents believed was happening.

It is not that we have just 'woken up to the proposed DTC', it is because we are only just finding out about the enormity of the full plans.

The majority of people's concerns are related to the fact that the development is now gobbling up around 500 acres of countryside for additional housing and the proposed new access roads.

In particular, the proposed northern access road (NAR) is badly placed, will affect many residents, the environ-

ment, and will be costing taxpayers to the tune of £15million plus.

It has now been acknowledged that the existing main entrance 'West Gate', was not even considered by the WAG team until members of the public attending the various workshops objected to the NAR - and questioned why the existing West Camp entrance could not be modified.

During the recent refurbishment of the runway, the West Camp entrance proved that it could be used, and with little or no effect on local people.

Apparently, the NAR is essential for the WAG proposals for an 'enhanced ABP'. The fact is that the Welsh Assembly Government has been trying for more than nine years to create a 'centre of excellence' for the aerospace industry, first at Rhose and now at St Athan and has so far failed.

It wishes to maintain existing engineering skills from local DARA trained personnel, but unfortunately, many were on contract and have already left the

area, with few remaining!

Is this going to be another expensive white elephant, following so soon after the building of the super hangar?

Why is there such fixation with an industry that is in decline, often in trouble, is the ultimate luxury, and is such a major environmental issue?

The Welsh economy would be much better served if support was given to smaller local businesses, rather than international conglomerates which may make headline news, but will relocate abroad at a drop of a hat!

Without this speculative development of the ABP, or if plans were reduced to an achievable size, the DTC could be brought 'within the wire', building kept to brown field sites and easily serviced by the West Camp entrance.

We must act now to make WAG reconsider the Aerospace Business Park, so that the DTC can come to St Athan with the residents' support.

Ann Barnaby, St Athan

Digital GEM's a winner!

THANKS FOR The GEM's digital edition and the back issues in the archives section, which I have read twice over.

G Elston
(Former Barrian) Echt, Holland

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 06)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15-20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
30 Thur	01.17	12.7	13.39	12.2
31 Fri	02.05	12.0	14.45	11.9
01 Sat	03.19	11.8	16.07	11.8
02 Sun	04.46	11.8	17.17	12.3
03 Mon	05.55	12.3	18.19	13.0
04 Tues	06.47	13.1	18.59	13.4
05 Wed	07.29	13.5	19.48	13.7
06 Thur	08.08	13.8	20.23	13.9

Fantasy over the St Athan DTC 'university'

PEOPLE seem to take seriously John Smith MP's figure of 20,000 students per year at St Athan, though we know figures are not his strong point.

The actual figure for the planning application is a maximum of 2,500 trainees on site at any one time, doing courses from a few weeks to 18 months long.

Nothing like Cardiff University, and only a quarter of the student numbers on Glamorgan University's Treforest campus.

Another relevant figure is one million contact hours per year. Metrix is arguing for this as one of the performance indicators. If it were 20,000 students they would average 50 contact hours, far from university standard.

Metrix wants to substitute a lot of computer-based training, but the trades union has examined the proposals and is arguing for 1.5 million contact hours. Metrix's

figure for the 2,500 trainees on the St Athan site means nine contact hours each per week.

That might do for motivated students on a reading-based university course, but is two hours a day enough for those getting basic practical training?

Top staff in all three services feared that the Metrix PFI would downgrade training standards. Mr Smith's fantasy comparison with Cardiff University - instead of listening to the very real fears of the 'brass-hats' about dummed-down training - shows his quitting as MP cannot come too soon.

It's worrying that the MP fails to grasp the basic numbers that show the Technical College (one-time 'Training Academy') is no big deal.

Rather than the 'recession buster' of his publicity sheet, it's of a piece with Labour's PFI-privatisation dodges for government spending beyond our means that contributed to the recession, and now make it a clear target for cuts. Max Wallis

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(Emergency number 999)

COASTGUARD 01792 366534

FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188

HELPLINES

Alcohol and drugs:

Drinkline 0800 9178282

National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600

DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA - Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families 01656 785435

RAF Association Welfare Officer

01495 249522/01446 740522

SAMARITANS (emotional support)

01656 662333

VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755

MENTAL DISTRESS

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

Mental Health Helpline:

Freephone 0800 132 737

MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan

01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk

CHILDLINE 0800 1111 -

www.childline.org.uk

Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.

RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.

AIDS helplines 0800 567123.

Child abuse - NSPCC 0800 800500.

Alcoholics Anonymous - (24 hours) 0845 7797555.

Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.

Inroads Drugs Project - 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.

Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM'S SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

Citizens Advice: At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Office opening times vary throughout the week. Telephone 0845 120 3756 between 10am and noon for details. Further information on www.adviceguide.org.uk

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Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999. Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

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To report a fly tipping incident - 02920 673000.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF DEFENCE ESTATES COMMENDS ST ATHAN

Admiral Tim Laurence, the chief executive of MoD's Defence Estate, has awarded Wing Commander Richard Read his personal commendation.

The commendation is for his leadership of the St Athan Site management team serving the Welsh Assembly Government, MoD interests on site and supporting Metrix in its Defence Training College development plans.

Wing Commander Read is well known within the St Athan and Vale community, and has served as a point of contact throughout the site's

difficult transformation since 2003. He will continue with his role as site director through to early 2010.

Admiral Laurence commented: 'This award recognises your role leading a unique delivery team serving both the MoD and the Welsh Assembly Government.

"Your commitment and enthusiasm have contributed to a successful delivery to a complex and demanding customer group; and on top of this, your team has undertaken a highly successful runway resurfacing project.

"The team has also been named 'UK National Recycling Champions' and 'Wales Sustainability



Champions' in addition to providing valuable continuity on site, covering a raft of interests and development aspirations. "It is an achievement of which you can be justifiably proud."

ABOVE:
Admiral Tim Laurence presenting to Wing Commander Richard Read

PTA says fond farewell to school's headteacher

Y BONT Faen School bid farewell to its headteacher with a tree planting organised by the PTA earlier this month.

The Y Bont Faen PTA donated an apple tree with a plaque dedicated to the head, who planted it in front of staff, parents and pupils after a school concert.

A PTA spokeswoman said: "Everyone thought the occasion very fitting, as they could pay their thanks and farewells to Mrs Sue Dodd after 16 years at the school."

Each year group performed 'Song from the Musicals' and the concert was opened by the school orchestra.

Nursery performed extracts from *Jungle Book*, Reception and year-3 sang extracts from *Mary Poppins*, year-1 performed extracts from *The Sound of Music*, year-2 and year-4 sang pieces from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, year-5 performed extracts from *Sister Act* and year-6 from *Grease*.



ABOVE: Retiring headteacher Mrs Dodd plants a tree in the school grounds.

Rachel Nicholas (year-1) sang the introduction to 'Doh a Deer' as a solo, and her sister Charlotte Nicholas (year-2) sang 'Edelweiss' as a solo with the school choir joining in.

The concert ended with a whole school rendition of 'Thank you for the Music', which

seemed fitting of the occasion.

The PTA have been busily fundraising all year and have raised more than £4,000 for the school, which has helped in the purchasing of a new computer suite.

Richard Watson, chair of the PTA, wanted to express his thanks to everyone who has

helped and donated to the PTA this year, and is excited for the future with a new headteacher and an exciting calendar of events for the year ahead.

He added: "Everyone living in Cowbridge is welcome to attend our events, so please watch this space!"

Cowbridge traders look back on their 'successful year' at annual meeting

COWBRIDGE traders heard that the chamber of trade had enjoyed a successful year when members gathered together for the annual general meeting.

Reviewing the year, chairman Alun John said that the Food and Drink festival was a great success and he thanked John Davies and Polly Wilson for their hard work. He urged all businesses in the town to get behind the event this year.

The meeting heard that the reusable Cowbridge bag had been a success with shoppers and so far, 2,500 have been sold.

Mr John said that the reindeer parade was a huge hit, especially with the children. Extra grants received by the chamber meant that the costs of things like the staging, barriers and the sound

system was covered, leaving the chamber itself to foot the cost of bringing in the reindeer.

A red carpet night staged by the chamber in the run-up to Christmas was a success, despite the weather, and consideration will be given to running it on a number of nights next December.

The meeting heard that as the food and wine festival and fashion week are excellent examples of certain groups of traders working together to raise the profile of the town, it may be possible to get other groups of traders to also organise an event.

A suggestion was made that the craft, antique and jewellery businesses could get together to organise an event themselves to boost trade in town.

The Cowbridge 'Sale' was cited as another good example of businesses banding together to promote an event, which they adver-

tised in The GEM.

The chamber is also considering an alternative to the individual Christmas trees put up each year. It has had information about installing lights throughout the town instead, including the alleyways, and this would be more effective for more or less the same cost as the trees.

At the moment, businesses are being asked to consider the idea and give some feedback to the chamber.

The meeting heard that the loyalty card scheme will soon be launched and there was thanks for Eleri of Amici, who has done the work involved.

Members also thanked the town's three borough councillors - Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Val Ellis - for their support by attending meetings and taking on board any issues raised by traders.

All officers were re-elected.

Day of smiles as town's popular son is married



ABOVE:
Huw Williams and partner Harriet at their son's wedding.



ABOVE RIGHT:
The happy couple.



AS reported on page 1, the wedding of Rhys Williams and Elizabeth Challenor at Holy Cross Church attracted a large number of rugby stars, past and present.

There were few more famous guests

that Robert Norster and Gareth Edwards (pictured above with their partners).

After the ceremony, the happy couple set off for a two-week

honeymoon, with the first week in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, at a game reserve, and the second relaxing in the Maldives.

HECTIC JULY FOR THE WI MEMBERS

THE meeting on July 13 showed the summer holiday moving into full swing, with 14 members in attendance, but 10 apologies for holiday commitments.

The two guest speakers, Peter Mayle and

Bill Price, gave a resounding talk on campology. They are both bellringers at St Illtyd Church, Llantwit Major and supported their talk on the history of bellringing with DVD illustration.

On the previous Saturday, July 11, the group had supported the

village fete with initially a parade float presenting Old Stars of the Galaxy.

They continued their community role during the afternoon with cream teas, and five members provided song routines, ably supported by assistant Kath Jones on piano.

During a busy month, a group of members travelled to St Fagans on July 14 to enjoy a performance of *The Gondoliers*.

The visit to Nash Lighthouse on June 30 was another successful outing, when a representative of Trinity House gave a talk on its history, allowed us all to climb up and down the many

steps (who needs Weight Watchers?) and demonstrated the fog horn which could be heard clearly from Colwinston. The evening was finalised with a tapas meal in Wick.

Looking forward to Saturday, September 5, we have organised 'An Evening with Terry Walton' at Colwinston

village hall, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and the evening includes a light supper and bar.

This event is open to the public.

The next business meeting will be on Monday, September 14, at the village hall at 7.30pm when an auction will be organised.

All are welcome.

COLWINSTON/LLYSWORNEY WI

WRITE IN!
● WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL (Tel: 01446 774484)

VILLAGE SHOW

A REMINDER that the annual Llanccarfan village show will take place on Saturday, August 22, at both the village and school halls.

There are classes to suit all ages - flowers, fruit and vegetables, baking, photography, crafts and painting - so plenty to choose from!

Please get your entries ready and contact the show secretary, Ann Ferris, 01466 781350.

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 3:20

(Cowbridge Christian Fellowship)

Ystradowen park opened by Vale Council leader



Pictured left to right are Coun Lewis, Mrs Sue Zaslon, Mr Richard Skinner, Coun Cox, Coun Gordon Kemp, Coun Jarvie, Coun Ellis and Mrs Catherine Clay.

A NEW park at Ystradowen has been officially opened by the Vale Council.

Parc Owain Park was opened by council Leader Coun Gordon Kemp. Deputy leader Coun Hunter Jarvie, cabinet member for visible and building services, Coun Geoff Cox and members of the local community were also present.

A council spokeswoman stated: "The new park is easily accessed through the White Lion car park and the Ystradowen Sports and

Community Associations' land and boasts a multi-court for football, basketball and tennis.

"A footpath has been laid out so users can walk around the meadow and wetland area, which provides a sustainable ecological habitat, as well as seating areas equipped with water and electricity points for community events.

Coun Gordon Kemp said: "I have watched the development of this site and I was pleasantly surprised to see how well it has been designed to fit in with the surrounding countryside.

The involvement of the local community shows how the Vale Council works with local people to deliver their aspirations.

"This site will provide recreational facilities for all ages and will encourage further participation in physical activity."

Coun Geoff Cox

added: "The new park will make all the difference as it is a pleasant and quiet location suitable for all of the Ystradowen community to use. I have already had good positive feedback about the park and I am sure it will be well used by all in the village."

CHARITY'S SALE

ON Saturday, August 1, 10am-12.30pm, there will be interesting and unusual plants on sale, grown by the Hardy Plant Society, south Wales group, at Lesser Town Hall, Cowbridge. Free Entry.

For further details, telephone 01446 774036.

'Old Hall is safe to use' — area officer

LAST week under the headline 'Old Hall - A People Trap?' GEM reader Gordon Deaves, who lives in Cowbridge, expressed his concern that if there was a fire in the building during a public event, a safe evacuation would not be possible.

Sally Perini, the area development officer at Old Hall, told The GEM: "The Old Hall in Cowbridge is an extremely interesting place both on the outside as well as the inside.

"As a Grade II listed building it has many delightful features and a variety of pleasant rooms.

"Cowbridge has a relative shortage of accessible buildings for the local community and the Old Hall has become a real asset being able to offer rooms to support some thriving local clubs and groups."

She explained: "The Old Hall does fully comply with legislation associated with public buildings. Within the building, there are two stairways and three fire exits. "The Vale of Glamorgan Council has also committed to funding disabled access to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.

"The plans have now been approved by planning and the works are scheduled for autumn 2009."

35 years' service with bank

SANDRA WILLIAMS, manager of NatWest's Cowbridge branch, is celebrating 35 years service with the bank.

Her career began at the Brecon branch in 1974 and she moved to the Oxfordshire area before returning to Brecon in 1993.

She transferred to the Cowbridge branch in 1995 when the family moved to live in the area, and was appointed manager of the branch in 2005.

St Athan fire crew a star attraction on hospice day

MoD St Athan firefighters were again a star attraction at the Ty Hafan annual open day recently.

Fire-fighters Mick Fraser and Simon Cook were keen to volunteer as they had done on previous occasions and SAC Will Scrivens, who joined the

team for the first time, agreed it was "an incredible experience!"

"Ty Hafan is totally funded by charitable contributions, and this year the crew raised £80 donated by members of the public. In return for their donations, parents could watch their children 'man the engine', with blue lights and horns especially being a favourite! Additionally, children could dress up in fire kit and be photographed against a fiery backdrop." A St Athan spokeswoman said.

"The team also took the opportunity of getting across the more serious message of fire safety in the home as they distributed leaflets, advice and educational books for the children," she added.



ABOVE: These youngsters had fun with the fire equipment. BELOW: Posing on a fire engine.



'Green fingers' Callum is Gardener of the Year!

STUDENT Callum Ellis has been chosen by Heronsbridge School, Bridgend as its Gardener of the Year.

The award, sponsored by specialist recruitment company, Hays Education, was presented to Callum during the school's end of year assembly.

He was selected by the school as Gardener of the Year because of his "enthusiasm, commitment and passion for gardening". He was been involved in setting up the school's garden and has chosen a horticulture module as his study subject.

David Halliday was named as the runner up - for being "consistently helpful".

Daiva Adey, office manager at Hays Education said: "We are proud to be involved with Heronsbridge School and sponsor this award.

"It is a fantastic opportunity to help motivate the students and reward outstanding achievements. It is important that children have an all-round education and can nurture their interests in the school environment. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the school in the future."

Eighty classes planned for horticultural show

THIS year, there are 80 classes for flowers, vegetables, home baking, preserves and brewing in Llantwit Major Horticultural Show.

The theme for the show is 'Grow it, pick it, show it, cook it - who knows you may be a winner'.

It will be held, as usual, at the leisure centre on Ham Lane East.

There is also a novice section for exhibitors who have not won before.

Exhibits for all sections will be welcome at the leisure centre, on

August 15, from 8.30am-10.45am at a cost of 30p per exhibit. Children's entries are free of charge.

The show will open to the public at 2.15pm (entrance fee 60p for adults, 20p for children over five).

Forming part of the show is the Llantwit Major country market, where homemade products can be purchased.

Included in the show is a demonstration of flower arranging.

Presentation of prizes takes place at approximately 4pm by Mr Alan Rees, chairman of the allotments and leisure

gardens.

A society spokesman said: "The children's section is split into age groups to cater for all children.

"Exhibitors are not required to be professional exhibitors, all ages are welcome, so come along and join in the fun.

"There are trophies, and money to be won. Who knows, your entry could be best in show."

Show schedules are available and can be obtained from the society shop in Llanmaes Road on Sunday mornings or at 39 Bedford Rise, Llantwit Major.

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Shirley and Arthur.

Golden wedding

A PARTY in their beautiful garden in the village of Treoes saw the celebration of Shirley and Arthur Callaghan's golden wedding on Saturday, July 25.

Shirley and Arthur were married in Saron Chapel on July 25, 1959, and have lived in their present home for the past 36 years.

Shirley is a true Treoes 'girl' - having been born in a thatched cottage in the heart of the village. Arthur is a true 'Rhondda' boy.

Their children all live in close proximity to their parents and pictures of their eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren proudly adorn their home.

WARTIME STORY
THIS week, I am diverting from news of my three villages to bring GEM readers the story of a remarkable man.

Gwyn Evans, born in the mining village of Blaengarw, became a bomber pilot in the Second World War.

He had many harrowing tales to relate. Following one raid on Germany, his plane was attacked over the English



COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Channel when a fellow crewman was killed, just minutes after Gwyn jumped from the blazing plane.

After several hours, he was rescued by a group of French Resistance fighters but, unfortunately, he was betrayed by someone from the village and arrested by the Germans.

He and other PoWs were marched through France to be imprisoned in Germany. One day, when the prisoners were approaching Germany, an RAF fighter plane flew over and bombed the column and Gwyn's companion was killed.

Gwyn has written many poems and stories of his harrowing experiences as a PoW and of life in his home town of Blaengarw.

Of the nine local men who went to serve in Bomber Command in World War Two, he was the only one to return to Blaengarw.

Sadly, Gwyn's life came to an end in May this year following a long and painful illness. His funeral took place at the Coychurch Crematorium on May 15 and was attended by so many neighbours and friends.

At the closing of the service, the Last Post was sounded by Gwyn's nephew, Robert.

The following poem was written for Joan, Gwyn's partner of 37 years.

To Joan

I loved you through the nights and through the days,

A hundred thousand different ways,

I love you still, and through eternity

My love will last for all to see,

A beacon burning, blazing in the night

Illuminating all in sight

My love will live in every scented flower

And in the freshening April shower.

In every breeze that stirs the autumn leaf,

My love will live beyond belief,

'Twill live and laugh in every singing stream

In every thought, in every dream

Can words express the depth of such a love?

Emblazoned in the stars above.

I have had full permission to tell Gwyn's story from Joan.

Any reader wishing to buy Gwyn's book of poems can telephone her on 01656 663693.

Llansannor fayre-goers defy the damp weather



THIS year, Llansannor and Llanharry Church in Wales School celebrates its 150th anniversary, and in true British tradition, the summer fayre was held in near-tropical conditions!

Despite the unfavourable weather, the fayre was a tremendous success, with everyone getting into the party spirit.

Adults were able to browse stalls which had a Victorian theme, while children enjoyed more 21st century activities, being transformed into 'monsters' with face paint.

Many thanks go to everyone who supported the event.

SIÂN JONES



ABOVE:

So, which plane will fly furthest?

VALEWAYS WALKS

ON Sunday, August 2, 'Welsh walking' (for Welsh speakers and learners) along the River Thaw - Meet at 2.30pm in Cowbridge town hall car park (no dogs). For further information, telephone 01446 749000.

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Grant for Dyffryn House praised

VALE MP John Smith has welcomed the announcement from the Welsh Assembly Government that the Historic Buildings Advisory Council for Wales is making a grant of £50,000 for historic buildings restoration or repairs to Dyffryn House, St Nicholas.

Mr Smith said: "I am pleased that the Historic Buildings Council for Wales has made this recommendation to finance further restoration and repairs to Dyffryn House."

"It is important that we protect our historic heritage in the Vale of Glamorgan for future generations."

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MEMBERS FOXTROT FOR CHARITY!**Tea Dance raises £200 for Marie Curie Hospital**

This picture was taken at the presentation of a cheque for £200 by members of the committee – Shirley, Lynn and Marion (surrounded by some of the dancers) to Helen Griffiths of the hospice.

MEMBERS attending the Penarth Tea Dance Association's recent festival made a further donation to the Marie Curie Hospice. The tea dance is held every Monday, at 2pm-4.30pm, in the Paget Rooms and everyone is welcome.

GREAT TEA PARTY!

FOLLOWING the success of the Blooming Great tea party held last year in the offices of Larby Williams with Gwyn & Gwyn Solicitors, the staff have decided to hold a similar tea party this year in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Anyone who would like to support this good cause is welcome to join in the tea party on Friday, July 31, from 2.30pm-4.30pm at The Pavilion, 60 Eastgate, Cowbridge.

All the funds raised will help Marie Curie Nurses to provide free care for terminally ill people in their own homes or at one of the charity's hospices.



Norman and Bernice Davies celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary at the tea dance.

'Watch out for these cycle thieves' – owners warned

BICYCLE owners beware – there appears to be a gang of thieves in the Vale targeting good quality bikes.

Four bikes have been stolen in recent weeks, with the latest theft taking place on July 13.

Between 3pm and 4pm two Kona Heihei Supreme models,

coloured white and silver, were stolen at the Cwm George Forest, Dinas Powys.

Police have appealed for witnesses to the theft – if anyone has any information concerning the offence they should contact Police Constable Katie Butler at Penarth Police Station on 101; or they can call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

The theft came almost two weeks after what appears to be another targeted theft in Penarth.

On July 4, two bikes – a Kona model imported from the USA and a Claude Butler Urban 300 men's bike – were stolen from a garage in Baron Road.

With many bicycles worth several hundred pounds, it seems criminals have identified them

locally as high value items that can be sold on.

PC Steve Trigg told The GEM: "We would urge people to use bike security measures when leaving a bike unattended."

"If anyone has been offered any of these bicycles for sale, or has information, we would ask them to contact Penarth Police Station on 101 or phone Crimestoppers."

THIRD TIME LUCKY?

GLAMORGAN Hunt Show is hoping that this year will be the third time lucky and that the show will go ahead after Foot and Mouth, and then bad weather in the last two years caused it to be cancelled.

The event will take place near St Nicholas at the top of Tumble Hill (off the A48), on Sunday, August 23, at 9am.

Show secretary Sarah Morris said: "It is a lovely little show, the old fashioned kind that we don't seem to have anymore. We have gymkhana, leading rein, showing, plus novelty classes – such as "best six legs" and "pony with the prettiest face"."

Schedules are available from Sarah Morris on 01656 654014 or visit www.glamorganhunt.com for further information.

'Claim for injuries'

VALE MP, John Smith, this week welcomed an announcement that thousands of coal miners suffering from osteoarthritis of the knee, sometimes referred to as 'miners' knee', will be able claim Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit.

They should go directly to Jobcentre Plus for help with their claims and avoid paying for solicitors, he said.

For more information on how to claim for the industrial injuries disablement benefit, telephone 0845 758 543.

'Don't police us from Barry' – call

POLICING of Ewenny, Ogmere by Sea, Southerndown and St Bride's Major should be carried out from Bridgend and not from Barry.

That is the view of Bridgend council leader David Unwin, who said that now the Bridgend and Vale police divisions were merging, it was a nonsense to send officers from Barry to deal with these problems.

"These villages were located in the Vale division and officers would have to come all the way from Vale stations to deal with problems," he said.

"It seems sensible to me that following the merger, the policing should be transferred to Bridgend, which is only a few minutes away. It would be crazy to keep the old system going."

Acting Supt Simon Belcher told Bridgend town council he would be raising the issue at a meeting this week.

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Schools collect awards – and help the trees grow!



VALE schools have celebrated success in the Yellow Pages Woods Challenge, run with the Woodland Trust and the Vale Council.

Yellow Pages awarded cash prizes to schools that recycled out-dated Yellow Pages directories.

St Helen's Junior School won the Gold Oak award and received £300 for recycling nine directories per pupil. They also scooped the £100 bonus prize from Yellow Pages for outstanding achievement.

Llancafarn Primary School won the Silver Birch award and £200, while St Joseph's RC Primary School came third and received £100 and the Bronze Beech award.

A total of 5,199 old directories were collected and recycled into paper and cardboard products.

For every pound given to schools, Yellow Pages donated a matching pound to the Woodland Trust.

Sue East, corporate fundraiser from the trust, said: "The money from the Yellow Woods Challenge supports our

St Helen's Junior School pupils celebrate their win in the Yellow Woods competition, with Miss Starke, Coun Tony Hampton, cabinet member for education and lifelong learning, Mrs Frayling, Coun Geoff Cox, cabinet member for visible and building services and Mrs Evans.

Tree For All campaign, which aims to plant 12 million native trees – that's one for every child in the UK."

The top six schools also won a year's free membership to the Trust's 'Nature Detectives Club' courtesy of Yellow Pages. Members receive regular educational materials to make learning about nature fun throughout the year.

Vale schools now wait to find out how their directory recycling scores compare with other schools taking part in the Yellow Woods Challenge in Wales. Recycling champions will win £1,000 from Yellow Pages.

Finalists in the Big Yellow Pages art competition will be put to a public vote in the autumn.

Rugby stars are aiming to hit the heights for lung cancer campaign

FIFTEEN former Wales rugby captains will be joined by current national coach Warren Gatland on an expedition to climb Mount Kilimanjaro on September, 6, and aim to raise £1m for the Velindre Cancer Centre Stepping Stones Appeal.

Current captain Ryan Jones joined predecessors Scott Gibbs, Paul Thorburn and Scott Quinnell at a Millennium Stadium launch of the 'Brains SA Captains' Climb' which also has a limited number of places for members of the public who can contribute a minimum of £10,000 to the appeal.

The initiative is the brainchild of national team sports photographer Huw Evans whose family has recently been affected by lung cancer – the disease for which the appeal provides research funding.

"Each of the 15 former captains will be competing to raise money for the appeal, so fans can actually sponsor their favourite captain

from recent history and it's quite a list of former rugby legends," said Jones.

"Or, even better than that, if you can raise the entrance money you could be reaching the heights of Africa alongside the likes of Gareth Thomas, Jonathan Davies, Scott Gibbs or Paul Thorburn".

The full list of international captains who have committed to the climb alongside Gibbs, Thorburn and Quinnell is: Gareth Thomas, Ieuan Evans, Mark Taylor, Mike Hall, Bleddyn Bowen, Jonathan Davies, Rob Howley, Rob Jones, Jonathan Humphreys, Bob Norster, Eddie Butler and Colin Charvis. Gatland will also have coaching company with former Scarlets legend and international Phil Davies joining the party.

The total party will number around 55, including at least one camera crew, Evans himself and the Velindre Cancer Centre's Dr Jason Lester who is leading the expedition, alongside 100 Sherpas.

"The support we have had from the whole rugby community in Wales has been astounding already, the list of

names on the trip is truly impressive and if that response is anything to go by we should reach the million pound figure with room to spare!" said Evans, whose wife Sue, a non-smoker, was diagnosed with lung cancer in November 2008 and is currently in recovery.

"It's only when you are affected by a disease like this personally that you realise it can happen to anyone of us at any time and that we need to do something more about it as a human race.

"When we told people about Sue we were overwhelmed by the response and the offers of kindness, people want

to do things to help so the next step for us was to channel that energy and begin to raise money".

Dr Lester, who has treated Evans' wife, is also amazed at the response so far.

"We are raising the profile of an area of research which gets a bad Press because people wrongly associate lung cancer with smoking, which isn't the case, this disease can and does affect people indiscriminately and we hope to achieve the survival rates that other cancers have already attained."

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Maddie and her ponies star at the Royal Welsh

by PHILIP IRWIN

Maddie holds her winner's rosette and a picture of her dapple grey pony.



A five years old local girl who goes to Pendoylan Primary School, has returned from the Royal Welsh Show with two prizes for her show ponies.

Madison Louise Dalley (Maddie) has been smitten by ponies ever since she was two, and she took two of them to the show in Builth Wells, entering in both the M and M lead rein, and show pony lead rein categories.

Chloe's confidence and assurance on her ponies meant that she picked up two second prizes – and this was after taking two first places in the Bridgend Show.

Her dapple grey *Dijicht Boris* was second in the M and M, and her dark bay *Red Vale Little Mermaid* took the same prize in the show pony lead rein. Next stop is the Vale Show on August 19.

Maddie's mother, Leah, told THE GEM: "Maddie is generally very quiet, but when she is with her ponies, she is assertive and confident, letting them know just what she wants."

Clearly, Maddie sailed through the whole Royal Welsh experience, taking it all in her stride. It wasn't quite so relaxing for mum though.

Leah said: "We were there the day after the heavens opened, and the show ring was a sea of mud."

"I was having nightmares that I would trip up while leading Maddie and her pony!"

Cowbridge Museum's evidence of a continental superstate – 2,000 years ago!

FROM a time nearly 2,000 years before the EEC, items in the 'Roman Cell' of Cowbridge Museum remind us that the town was once part of another continent-wide superstate.

Samian pottery found in the town came from Gaul, now France, and some of it shows images of non-native Roman deities.

A stamped legionary tile, along with the remains of soldiers' boots, gives us evidence of the Roman military presence.

We know that the soldiers amused themselves with the gaming counters on show.

The pieces of Roman glass from windows or

drinking vessels may well have been imported, while the black burnished and the grey pottery in the cell would have been made in Britain.

Information panels give details of excavations carried out in High Street, Hopyard meadow, behind the Bear Hotel and in the Arthur John car park.

Evidence of four burials was uncovered in the car park, including a virtually complete well preserved male skeleton.

Visitors and volunteers are very welcome on the first Saturday of each month, between 10.30am-4pm.

The museum is in the old prison cells inside Cowbridge Town Hall.

It has been pointed out that Officer Watts, mentioned in an article last month, was known as Roy, and that, although he died on active service, he was not shot down.

DAVID PIERCE

Holy Cross concert

THERE will be an evening of opera and musical favourites on Friday, August 7, at 7.30pm in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge.

The evening will feature Cowbridge soprano Daisy Evans, with Adam Gilbert (baritone), Bethan Langford (mezzo soprano) and Joshua Mills (tenor) – all accompanied by Bryan Davies.

They are all classical singing students at the Guildhall School of Music in London, and the proceeds of the concert will go to fund their further studies.

Tickets are available from the parish office, Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, Moorshead Farm, Singtonstone, or telephone 01446 773261 or 01446 774962.

Cowbridge bid for longest UK catwalk?

THE LONGEST catwalk in the UK may be on the cards in Cowbridge.

Coun Andy Banks told Cowbridge Town Council that Fashion Week could see a catwalk set up along the street linking the fashion shops with a red carpet.

It was hoped to have a swing band playing as the models walked up and down as well as stilt walkers!

It was one of the suggestions being discussed at the moment by the chamber.

Coun Banks said that the chamber AGM was very upbeat and there was a general feeling that the town was moving in the right direction despite the downturn in the economy.

WORK STARTS ON NEW SKATE PARK AT LLANTWIT

WORK got under way this week on a project to revamp the skate-board park in Llantwit Major.

The Vale Council has received a grant via Creative Rural Communities under the Rural Development Plan for Wales, which it is matchfunding to upgrade the park at Windmill Lane.

The work is expected to be completed by Friday, August 21.

The scheme came out of a public meeting called by Coun Russell Downe, following an earlier meeting to discuss the new play park in the town.

"We had so many youngsters asking about the skate park that we decided to call a separate meeting."

"The play park is a project being funded by the town council, but I explained that the skate park actually belongs to the Vale Council and they would have to be involved."

Coun Downe said that Phil Beaman, who is operational manager for parks and gardens, attended the meeting, together with Sophie Williams, who is the Vale Youth Champion.

A number of Llantwit councillors attended, including Sally Bagstaff and Dave and Molly

Lane. This meeting was also packed out, with more than 150 people present, and Phil Beaman then went to the Vale Council cabinet to get permission to work on the project.

"We also had the formation of Major Skate as a direct result of all this," said Coun Downe. "Derek Naylor and his sons were very keen and they got a lot of youngsters together to form the group."

Consultations were held with young skaters about what they wanted.

"We also had a private meeting involving Llantwit borough and town councillors and Vale officers and we discussed what could be done," added Coun Downe.

"I understand that grant applications were submitted and the Vale has received the funding it needs."

The work includes resurfacing existing items in the park, adding some new ones and cre-

ating a new entrance. A cable is also being laid ready for floodlighting to be installed in a later phase of the scheme.

Coun Downe said that this park was for the use of all skateboarders in the community and not only members of Major Skate.

"It has been provided with public money for the benefit of all. It's been fantastic and I want to thank Phil Beaman and everyone at the Vale for working so quickly."

"They have managed to get this agreed and the money through in time to get it up and running this summer."

"I take my hat off to them. It's a very positive outcome for the young people of the town."

He also praised Mr Naylor for his work as chairman of Major Skate. There was also collaboration with Safer Vale and the Youth Service.

"It's been a good community effort," he added.

READER'S LETTER

Old Hall grounds responsibility of the Vale Council

THE committee for turning Cowbridge Old Hall grounds into a garden of Eden – with fruit trees, patio areas, and a mini garden centre, are not an elected body.

They are imposing themselves, to take over what is a local government responsibility for a publicly-owned amenity.

It is the democratic right of the electorate that the property continue to be managed by the Vale Council, and not to be altered from its present form.

With regard to the needs of the disabled, it is a much wider issue than that of the Old Hall grounds.

A gentlemen who bravely struggles to push a shopping trolley up and around The Limes road hill in the face of traffic, with no safety whatever, springs to mind.

Attention is needed to resolve this problem, which is one of many.

The Old Hall committee should switch their persuasive powers and creativeness to acquiring the Three Fields which connect Cowbridge with Llanblethian.

Staggered entrances and exits would allow all but vehicles to enjoy this magnificent area and would be a huge social boost, complimentary to the castle.

Is this too big a challenge for the committee? Prove that you can achieve something that will be appreciated by so many, for years to come. Gordon Deaves, Cowbridge

Visit Ilfracombe - Pirates & Princesses Day – Evening Showboats

from CARDIFF & PENARTH

From CARDIFF join Bus connections for Penarth Pier – Service 52a departs Central Station (Stand E2) 45mins before ship departs & meets ship on return. Bus Fares to be paid on board. Penarth Pier is 20mins from M4-Junction 33. On street Car Parking.

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Aug 1 - Pirates & Princesses
SATURDAY AUG 1 Leave 2.15pm back 4.15pm
FRIDAYS AUG 7 & 21 Leave 10am back 5.15pm
Aug 1 - Cruise the Holm Islands & enjoy the Pirates & Princesses Cruise - special Fare Only £15! Children under 15 £7.50, Under 5s Travel Free! Children come dressed as Pirates & Princesses! Take part in the Treasure Hunt onboard – prizes for best dressed! On Aug 7 & 21 Visit Clevedon & cruise Holm Islands £19 SC £17

3 RIVERS & 5 BRIDGES • BRISTOL CITY TOUR
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SUNDAY AUG 30 Leave 11.30am back 8.45pm
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MONDAY AUG 3 Leave 2.15pm back 8pm
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LUNDY ISLAND • ILFRACOMBE • L&B RAILWAY
TUESDAY AUG 4 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
FRIDAY AUG 28 Leave 10.15am back 9.30pm
Visit Ilfracombe £27 SC £25 Or view the Exmoor Coast & visit Lundy Island. Explore this enchanting National Trust island with spectacular views, seabirds, Church of St. Helena & Marisco Tavern - Inclusive fare £39.95 Or enjoy a trip aboard the Lynton & Barnstaple narrow gauge Railway in North Devon & visit Lymouth – inclusive fare £39

WATERMOUTH CASTLE FAMILY THEME PARK
TUESDAY AUG 4 Leave 9.45am back 9.30pm
TUESDAY AUG 11 Leave 9.30am back 8pm
FRIDAY AUG 28 Leave 10.15am back 9.30pm
A wonderful family day out – suitable for small children. Sail Ilfracombe to visit a Castle & theme park amid spectacular scenery of Devon Coast. See Magnificent Gardens: Bumper Boats: Rides & Adventure Land: Dungeons: Gnome Land: All our Yesterdays Museum. Inclusive fare (no extras to pay) for your great day is only £31. Aug 21 return by inclusive coach (from Penarth)

WESTON: VISIT SEA-LIFE
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FRIDAY AUG 21 Leave 10am back 9.30pm
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Pendoylan Church Row is an award winning 'oasis'



ABOVE and RIGHT: The Church Row transformation that so impressed the judges of the Best-Kept Village competition. The area now sums up the best aspects of life in the rural Vale, and has been (justly) called an oasis.



HOW do you turn a nondescript area into an award-winning feature location in the Vale's 'Best Kept Village Competition'? Well, ask Pendoylan Church Row Residents' Association because that's exactly what they achieved.

A spokesman for the residents explained: "Some time ago the area was pretty nondescript, one side bounded by a stream which was so overgrown with brambles, trees and weeds that the water couldn't be seen.

"It was in such a state it was known as 'The Ditch'.

"On the other side were gardens, mainly in a wild state and nothing to be proud of."

Thanks to the influx of new blood, and the inspiration of established residents, a wonderful transformation took place, and the area won the Special Feature Section in the Best Kept Village Competition.

The stream was cleared, and trees removed along with overgrown bushes and rubbish. It is now a garden for all seasons, and the competition's chief judge described it as 'a little oasis'.

The GEM says: In many ways, this is a quite unexpected spin off from the Best-Kept Village competition.

The possibilities for communities to transform a small area into something special must be endless.

Congratulations to the Pendoylan residents, and let's hope that it engenders a spirit of competition around the Vale!

'Only 12 crimes in June' - Cowbridge town police

THERE were only 12 crimes in the Cowbridge area in June - down from the 20 experienced in June last year.

Insp Mark Taylor told Cowbridge councillors that he was pleased with the figures. There were no house burglaries and the two burglaries recorded were at the Antiques Centre, now in the old garden centre.

"Basically, it's a big glasshouse and I have asked officers to go along and talk to the owners about making it more secure. We are aware of the nature of this building."

The figures show that no cars were stolen, although there were three thefts from motor vehicles. There were also two assaults.

Insp Taylor said that these were assaults on minors and people have

been arrested. He said police had conducted a four-day operation at Culverhouse Cross shopping centre, which was high visibility.

"That is the gateway to the Vale and it kept the criminals away from this area. If they see police activity, they are deterred from venturing into the rural Vale."

He said officers would run operations at beauty spots to deter car crime, and added that issues at Broadway in Llanblethian were still under discussion with the Vale Council, and officers were continuing to book people who park illegally in High Street.

Coun Nicola Thomas asked if a police speed trap could be placed at Aberthaw on the road leading from the downs.

"We had a PACT meeting and residents brought up about the speed of traffic on Penlan Road. Six

people came to make the same point, so it would be nice if we could show that something was being done."

Insp Taylor said that PCSO Hilary O'Callaghan had spoken to him and he was aware of the problem.

Coun Marian Arnold said that some meetings had been held in Ystradowen, but these had not been well advertised and many people did not realise they were on.

Insp Taylor said he was disappointed if people were not aware of the venue, and said he would speak to PCSO O'Callaghan about this.

"She has been putting on coffee mornings in some areas to try and draw in people and that may have caused some confusion about the date and venue of the usual meeting," he added.

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Shopping trolley, tyres swept up in beach-clean



What a load of rubbish! From left to right back row: Kerry James, Paul Bennett, Dave Davies, Helen Cornwall, Joanna Hobbs and Kate Elliott and left to right front row: Ian Roderick, Lisa Bennett and Maria Ashman.

TEAMWORK resulted in a clean sweep for the beach and river area at Omore-by-Sea recently, when a group of water workers got together

er with Keep Wales Tidy and Omore Angling Association.

Staff from Kelda Water Services, the company which manages wastewater services

across south Wales on behalf of Welsh Water, organised the clean-up, which saw a shopping trolley, a couple of dozen tyres and over 30 bin bags of rubbish being collected.

The water workers are keen to make a difference in their local communities and since the end of 2007 have dedicated over 500 hours to community projects such as this, collecting 106 bags, 10 skips and 16 tonnes of general waste.

Joanna Hobbs, Kelda Water Services community panel chair said: "This is our third visit in less than 12 months to Omore-by-Sea. Last year, we were here with

the Marine Conservation Society. This year, as we have developed good links with Keep Wales Tidy, we thought it would be a good idea to link up with them and local organisations such as the Vale Council and the Omore Angling Association.

"We want to have a positive impact on the communities and environment where we work on behalf of Welsh Water, and not only do colleagues get a sense of achievement but they also benefit from the team building.

"On this occasion, it has been a case of the more the merrier!" she added.

'People of Wales can pull through together' Tackling cases of swine flu - in the Welsh way

by DR TONY JEWELL, WALES' CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

THERE is no doubt that the number of cases of swine flu in Wales will increase during the next few weeks, with further waves over the next year.

But we can all help to minimise the outbreak - if we pull together.

The most important message is - please don't turn up at your doctor's surgery or local hospital if you feel you have flu-like symptoms.

That only spreads the virus, perhaps infecting people at greater risk, such as young children, expectant mothers, or those with underlying health problems.

Instead, stay at home and use the phone or the internet to get advice.

You can call the swine flu information line on 0800 1 513 513 for recorded advice and the latest information.

Alternatively, visit www.nhsdirect.wales.nhs.uk or www.wales.gov.uk/health

Then, if you are still concerned, contact NHS Direct Wales on 0845 46 47 or phone your GP who can provide diagnosis over the phone and

give the advice you need.

For most people, the flu virus is proving relatively mild - so they can self-care and recover well without the need for anti-virals.

In the case of high risk groups - for example, pregnant women, children under five years old and people with heart or lung disease - contact your GP straight away: antiviral treatment is more effective if given within 48 hours.

A lot of people will have heard press and TV coverage of the National Pandemic Flu Service (NPFS) that has been launched in England, where swine flu has spread more rapidly.

In Wales we have decided to continue to

provide advice through our existing NHS Direct Wales service, which is staffed by health professionals.

Our health service staff are currently developing new arrangements to handle the increase in enquiries based on the experience of colleagues in Scotland.

If the number of cases here escalates greatly, and we face operational problems, we will have the option of plugging into the NPFS.

But at the moment, the number of cases remains comparable to seasonal winter flu, so it makes sense for us in Wales to enhance existing NHS services that people know and understand.

At home, and out and

about, we can help limit the spread of the virus by good hygiene - we need to be vigilant about using tissues, binning them and then washing our hands, that is why our message is 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It'.

We are working hard to ensure a supply of vaccine sufficient for the whole population of Wales - but that will take some time and obviously the needs of high-risk groups have to be met first.

That is why it is crucial that during the coming months the people of Wales help the NHS and help each other - together we can pull through.

CHARITY COFFEE
The Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian will be holding their monthly coffee morning in aid of Breast Cancer Care on Saturday, August 1, in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall.

Tea/coffee and cake between 10.30am-1pm. Admission £2.

FREE FOLK

CASTLE Folk Club are getting together for their monthly gathering on August 12, at the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry, from 8.30pm.

There is an open mic policy. Singer/songwriter Davey Cartwright will perform with Geoff Peart. Admission is free. Details from Geoff Peart on 01446 402822.

DATES FOR LOCAL PACT MEETINGS:

BARUC PACT, St Francis Millennium Centre, Barry, August 1, 3pm.

RHOSE PACT, Celtic Way Community Centre, August 4, 7.30pm.

ST BRIDES PACT, St Brides Major church hall, August 5, 6pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, Communities First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry, August 10, 2pm.

COWBRIDGE coffee and chat meeting, Bush Inn, St Hilary, August 11, 11am.

A Crime Prevention Day is being held on August 22, in Victoria Square, Penarth, from 11.30am-3.30pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.ourbobby.com

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Llangan leavers show that they've got talent

THE year-6 pupils at Llangan Primary School celebrated their last week in the school with a 'Llangan's Got Talent' show for family, friends and fellow pupils.

The pupils will, in the main, all move on to Cowbridge Comprehensive next year, and the school's headteacher, Mary Noyes, told *The GEM*: "Year-6 really were a talented group, and they were a pleasure to teach."

"I am sure that everyone at the leaving assembly really enjoyed the performances, as the children sang, danced, did gymnastics and dressed up in fantastic costumes."

There was even a chance for a select four to impersonate a rather more famous panel from the TV!



ABOVE: The judging panel were not holding back in their opinions!



Nathan and Jack were the star dancers!



ABOVE: The show closed with everyone singing in harmony.



Penarth Computer Club - notes on computer Agony columns

THE agony columns are a great favourite of mine; not the ones from the lovelorn or those with financial difficulties, but the ones dealing with the everyday problems of computer users.

If you don't buy computer magazines or read the columns buried in newspapers, then you will have to rely on other resources.

These can be pretty thin on the ground. One way to lose a friend is to keep asking for free advice and help with your computer.

Then there are the users' guides that come with the goods. If you are like most people, the manual is a last resort - after you have tried everything that you can think of.

The information is in there, but it is hard to find because you need to understand the words they use. Eventually, you come to differentiate between 'dialog boxes', 'sliders', 'radio buttons', 'tabs' and all the other stuff.

It helps to know the jargon in order to phrase the question properly.

It also helps to present enough information with the question, so that

whoever is prepared to answer can understand what is involved.

This would include things such as the operating system you are using and the version of the software that is giving the problem, and whether you did something specific just before the problem cropped up (if you can remember).

The agony columns deal with problems that have bedevilled ordinary users and tend to be relevant for that reason.

Having read of an interesting problem and noting that there is a quite elegant solution to it, the snag is how to remember the answer.

Some time ago, I started a cuttings file to hold the ones I think might be useful at some point. It proves handy from time to time, as was demonstrated when a problem cropped up recently. (Actually, the problem was one I was creating for others.)

As a matter of form, when I sent an email with attachments to several people I sent a 'blind' copy to myself to check that everything is OK.

After making a recent adjustment to my machine, I found that it was sending the attachments, but printing them

in the main body of the e-mail as well. This is an irritation to many people and the machine had been set up long ago not to do it, so how do I do it again?

You can stop it happening in future by going to Tools>Options>Send>HTML Settings and uncheck Send pictures with messages and say Apply, which is what I did. To be sure that it was effective, I sent myself a test e-mail with an attachment. It didn't work.

I have confidence in the writer who gave the advice, so I assumed I had missed something and tried again. This time, I paid closer attention and found that there was a second place for HTML Settings and therefore two places to be unchecked.

I unchecked the second one and sent a second test message. It showed me that it still had not worked!

Sometimes a change does not take effect until the programme has been re-started, so I closed and re-started the programme and sent test message number three. Still no joy. Perhaps an agony e-mail to the column was called for.

Confidence somewhat

shaken, I decided to close down the programme and shut down computer. This was because I know that some alterations require a total re-start for things to take effect. Close down, reboot; send message number four.

It works!

The point of telling

you all this is that even when you are following expert advice, it helps to keep your wits about you.

The Penarth Computer club is on a break for summer and will re-boot on September 14. Have a good holiday.

Howard Desmond

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Penarth Festival is hailed a great success

"A cracking festival this year" – was the comment from at least one local in Penarth, following a packed 10 days of events throughout the town, which launched this year's summer break for many residents.

Months of planning and negotiation invariably go into the event by scores of volunteers, and this year proved no exception to the rule.

Among several changes for 2009 were the relocation of the Artists Exhibition to the Cliff Walk, a move that attracted the support not only of the artists themselves, but also from more than 300 visitors who signed a petition in favour of the new location for future years.

The incredible fly-past by a vintage Dakota aircraft over the sea just off the Esplanade, brought applause from the huge crowd, and the ever-popular summer parade attracted hundreds of visitors along the route.

Coun Anthony Ernest, chairman of

the summer festival organising committee, said:

"I would like to thank all those who contributed to the events over the 10-day period; but especially members of the working group and officers of the town council, who put together a complex programme of events which required a considerable number of meetings and organisational skills to stage such a successful programme."

The programming of this annual festival starts the day after it ends the previous year.

"However, throughout the winter months, much of the backbone of the programme is already being finalised by the organisers, who know how much the festival means to so many participants from Penarth – and particularly the children who take part in so many events."

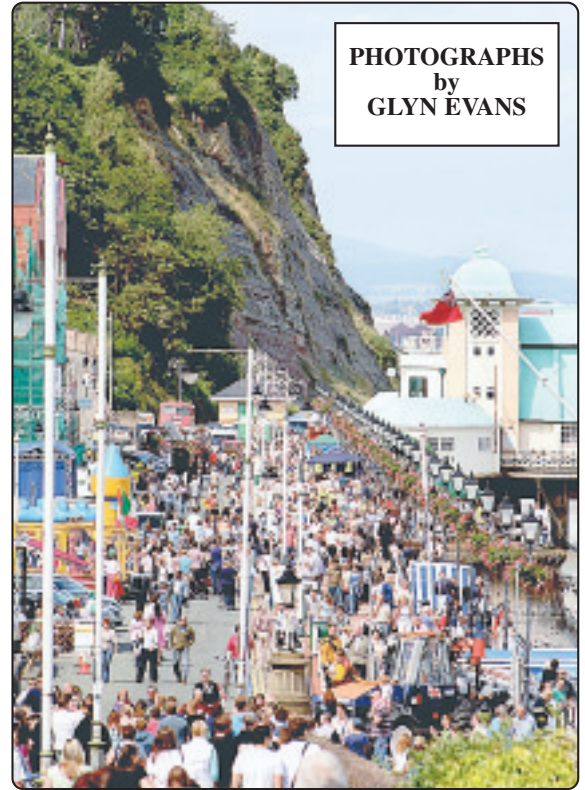
"The dates for the 2010 Festival are already in hand, while work is also under way on the Christmas festival events," Coun Ernest added.



ABOVE: These gentlemen spent most of the day searching for their pieces of eight!



ABOVE: There were plenty of fun things to do – including face painting (and meditative toe-dipping!)



PHOTOGRAPHS
by
GLYN EVANS

ABOVE: The crowds flocked to the Penarth festival.



Countdown is on for the Vale of Glamorgan Show!

IT is just 20 days until the annual Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show – and there are lots of new attractions, along with the traditional classes and competitions.

The show's general secretary, Nicola Gibson, said she was constantly amazed by the pulling power of the show which will be held this year on Wednesday, August 19.

"The people who take part in classes, or attend as visitors, are not just people from the Vale or south Wales.

"They come from as far afield as Carmarthenshire, Brecon and the West Country. We've even had an entry this year from Anglesey – I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw that!"

There will be all the usual high quality classes – for cattle, sheep, horses and dogs.

"The livestock sec-

tions are always excellent – the limousin category this year, for example, is outstanding," enthused Nicola.

And the organisers have made sure there are lots of new features to the show to excite visitors.

A total of more than 200 trade stands have already booked positions on the show field for people to browse round.

A swish, new marquee, hosting the shopping mall, will be constructed on the site.

Another marquee which will attract a lot of interest will house a beekeeping display.

People will even be able to dress up in the protective clothing to learn about worker bees!

There's a lot to keep the children amused too – the fairground, an 'I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here' style challenge, and the Petwise Zoo, a chance to meet creepy-crawlies such as spiders and snakes! There's also archery and laser-clay

fun. Apart from holding competitions, the main ring will also host some special feature events, including a rugby display from the Cardiff Blues and 'Katy Cropper's dogs and ducks'.

The gates open at 8.30am and the parade in the main ring takes place at 3pm.

The event attracts a large amount of visitors and it is expected that this year will be no exception.

While the showground itself will be marshalled by show stewards, a one-way traffic system will be in operation to ease access to and from the site.

This will be signed and coned by the Vale of Glamorgan Highways, and the Vale police will supervise traffic control to ensure there is as little congestion as possible.

Sergeant Paul Revers told The GEM: "We want to provide a safe and secure environment for visitors, competitors

and exhibitors, enabling everyone to get into the show and leave with the minimum of delay.

"We also want to keep any inconvenience to local traffic to a minimum by preventing congestion on the roads around the site, particularly the B4265, the busiest road to the show."

All traffic approaching from the east will be directed to enter the showground from the B4465, turning left into Fommon Village.

All traffic travelling from the west will enter the showground via the main entrance (Gate 1) on the B4265. There will be no right turns at these points.

Exiting the showground east-bound traffic will turn left at Gate 1, while west-bound traffic will exit via Gate 2 (Castle Lane) onto the B4265.

Further information on the show is available by telephoning 01446 710099.

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Paintings, photos, and 'cakes' made of sugar!

THE Palmerston Community learning centre has recently staged its annual art and craft exhibition.

Students attending adult education classes at community learning centres in the Barry area exhibited work produced throughout the year.

"The event is an annual celebration of the achievements of all the learners," explained centre manager Debbie Lewis. "It was a chance for everyone to see some of the excellent work that is produced in class."

"Many of the students were complete beginners in September but have produced some really impressive pieces."

For the first time, the exhibition was held over four days.

There were paintings, decoupage and photographs in the main hall and rooms full of pottery, glass, jewellery and cardcrafts, upholstery and even creative writing.

A sugarcraft display included decorated cakes, novelty character cakes and sprays of flowers.

The Sugarcraft students produced cakes that were sold to raise money for the Helen House hospice, recently the subject of a BBC2 documentary featuring Sugarcraft tutor Carmel Lovell, whose daughter Catriona was diagnosed with a malignant tumor at the age of 11.

Centre staff organised a raffle and tombola, which raised further funds for the charity.

The textiles students produced a record number of exhibits, including



**Winner of adult photo – challenge
Guy Newman.**



**Winner of junior photo challenge –
Chris Price.**

an impressive array of patchwork quilts, cushions and table runners, along with a display of bags made from rags.

During the launch evening, winners were announced of the photo challenge competition held at Barry Library during adult learners week in May.

Competitors were given a set of clues and sent off around Barry town centre to take the most innovative photographs.

The winner of the adult competition, Guy Newman, was presented with a gift voucher. The winner of the junior competition, Chris Price, received a camera tripod.

'Transport plan enormous benefit to Vale'

IWARMLY welcome the transport improvements announced by the Deputy First Minister Ieuan Wyn Jones, which will be of enormous benefit to the Vale.

I am especially pleased with the pledge to take forward safety improvements on the A426 Five Mile Lane, which has been a problem for years.

The introduction of additional half-hourly services on the Vale of Glamorgan Line is another major boost.

With plans to build an additional platform in Barry, the national transport plan is a good overall package.

National transport infrastructure has a crucial role to play in reducing carbon emissions.

The One Wales government is investing in rail and bus networks. The Welsh government is also improving walking and cycling routes.

I know that campaigners against an airport access road scheme, who I met in the Assembly recently, will be pleased that it doesn't feature in the Minister's plan.

Instead, there will be investment in a high-quality, frequent bus service between the capital and Cardiff Airport.

It's disappointing that all these positive moves were not warmly welcomed by the MP for the Vale of Glamorgan, or by the Tories.

It just goes to show they are two sides of the same coin.

Chris Franks AM
(Plaid Cymru)

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AIRPORT CHIEFS BACK ASSEMBLY'S RULING ON RHOOSE ACCESS ROAD

CARDIFF AIRPORT has backed the Welsh Assembly's decision not to build an airport access road, and instead target road improvements and more frequent bus and train journeys in the Vale.

An airport spokeswoman said: "With regard to the access improvements to Cardiff Airport, we broadly welcome the more pragmatic and sensible approach outlined by the Welsh Assembly and, in particular, to enhance frequency and quality of public transport options between Cardiff Airport and the city of Cardiff.

"The airport has for some time now questioned the notion of poor access to it and also whether this in itself could warrant such a significant road investment.

"Our view is that any significant infrastructural development, such as the options previously suggested, must be borne on the back of much wider economic and social benefits for and around the Vale."

The spokeswoman was anxious to stress that the proposed 'airport access road' would not have been just been to help air travellers, but the wider economy too. She explained: "Our concern throughout the road consultation

process has been that it was assumed the road was for the sole benefit of the airport - this of course was not the case.

"Perhaps it is this assumption which ultimately led to the demise of the road plans.

"If the various stakeholders had better articulated the economic benefits of the road within the Vale of Glamorgan, the public may have heard a different story."

She added: "We also welcome within the Assembly's National Transport Plan the desire to enhance international connectivity from Cardiff Airport."

Writing poetry has been a great gift in Dorothy's life

A COWBRIDGE woman has found comfort during the hard times in her life by writing poetry.

Dorothy Davies, of Tair Onen, who is now 80, is still putting pen to paper with her thoughts.

Mrs Davies has had many unhappy times, including being brought up in a children's home from the age of two to 11.

But she has enjoyed a wonderful marriage to her husband Bill, which has lasted 57 years to date.

Mrs Davies was brought up in Neath, and later Bridgend, but met her husband when she went on a day trip.

He came from Cardiff and they lived in the city for the first few years, when their two oldest children were born.

Both of these children suffered health problems and the couple were desperate for a home of their own, as they were living in rooms.

"My husband saw an advert for the Forestry Commission and the job came with a house," she recalled. "He got the job and we went to live in Brechfa near Carmarthen for three years."

Mr Davies then transferred with the commission to the Vale and the



Dorothy Davies, whose love of writing poetry has given her "huge comfort" over the years.

couple were allocated a house at Tair Onen.

"We lived in a different house at Tair Onen before moving to this one and we were able to buy it eventually when the Forestry decided they did not need so many workers. We have been at Tair Onen for 50 years," she said.

The couple had a further two children, and bringing up a family of four was a full time job for Mrs Davies.

Sadly, her eldest son

has died but she has a son and daughter living locally and one daughter in Grimsby. She also has two grand-daughters - Angharad and Eleri.

"I have written dozens of poems over the years and I have written them for people specially, or to mark special occasions," she said.

"I started writing

essays and poetry when I was still a child, but the majority have been written in more recent years."

She has collected the poems into a folder, which she has shown to a number of people, including Theda Williams in the Celtic Knot shop, Cowbridge.

"Theda has been very encouraging," she said. "I have shown her my poems and written specially for her."

One telling line in one of the poems reads: "I cannot stop myself getting older, but I can stop myself getting old."

And it is a philosophy that Mrs Davies fervently believes in.

Although she has health problems, including arthritis and osteoporosis, she remains active. She is a member of Zoar Chapel near the Aubrey Arms and also goes to St Nicholas WI.

"Poetry does not come easily to me," she said.

"But it comes when I really need to express myself."

"It's a gift which has been with me during the best and worst times of my life."



BRIDES & GROOMS

Kelly and Jason tie the knot on 'the perfect day'

ON May 29, Kelly Weavin and Jason Lewis were married at Cadoxton Methodist Church in Barry.

Following the ceremony, the newlyweds held a reception for family and friends at Cadoxton Conservative Club.

Kelly (25) and Jason (34) plan to go on honeymoon in the autumn.

Kelly told The GEM: "The weather on the day of the wedding was brilliant - it was boiling!"

"We're going to Spain for our honeymoon in October."

Kelly and Jason's daughters Jade, Porcha and Kayleigh were bridesmaids, along with their cousin Belle; while Belle's brothers, Cory and Luey, were page-boys.

Kelly's sister, Zara, was her chief bridesmaid, and Zara's partner, Phillip, was Jason's best man.



RIGHT:
Kelly and Jason.

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Why no men on the Labour list?

IAM amazed that the Labour Party has announced that only women are wanted to apply to be on its shortlist of candidates for the Vale parliamentary seat at the next general election.

As a woman, I find this extremely insulting and patronising. It appears that qualifications for the position of a Member of Parliament are simply down to a matter of gender.

In this day and age of so called equality, how can this be possible?

Don't any men out there feel it's unfair to discriminate in this way?

J Evans,
Llantwit Major

GEM footnote: What do other readers feel about Labour's women-only ruling? Is it fair or unfair? Write to The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL; or email ggem@internet-today.co.uk



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03 July	7	Athens to Rome (Free Air)	£2,578
06 July	12	Round Trip San Francisco (Free Air)	£3,013
16 July	7	Round Trip Copenhagen (Free Air)	£2,178
28 Aug	7	Athens to Venice (Free Air)	£2,578
04 Oct	10	Round Trip New York (Free Air)	£2,433
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Top bands pledge return - including 'Neil Diamond'!

DIVERSITY, something for everyone - that was the maxim adopted by Dave Roberts, the man responsible for booking the acts for Llantwit Major's 2009 Summer Sounds festival.

Dave explained: "Terri (my wife) and I have striven to make the event as diverse as possible to cater for different musical tastes."

"The festival kicks off on the Saturday with live music at the Old White Hart - as soon as we announced we were going ahead, the landlord was in touch to say he wanted to get involved."

"One evening to note is on the Tuesday; the Ignite Band are appearing at Bethel Baptist Church. They are a Christian rock group who have performed all over the country."

"Another exciting youth event is the 'Open Mic' night at Llantwit Hall. It is being hosted by Major Music and the local skate group - there's a big cross-over in membership."

"We've decided that one talented youngster from the 'Open Mic' night will get the chance of an early slot at the Precinct the next morning!"

There are classical offerings too.

"We're really pleased that Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society (CAOS) are back each year. It's a great testimonial for Summer Sounds that people want to return. This time CAOS' Viva to the Diva Productions is presenting 'A Night at the Opera'."

"Bridgend Male Voice Choir, which has close links to Llantwit Major, has a great repertoire and will be in St Iltyd's Church on Friday evening."

Dave is particularly enthusiastic about the Precinct event on Sunday. "It all starts at 11.30am and the final act, Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band, will take to the stage at 7pm. There will be eight or so groups, who will play for between 30 and 60 minutes."

Ticket line

TICKET information for some of the main shows is as follows:

The launch party takes place at the Old White Hart pub on Saturday, August 8.

On Tuesday, August 11, the festival moves to Bethel Baptist Church for The Ignite Band at 7.30pm, entrance free.

On Thursday, August 13, 'A Night at the

Opera' at St Iltyd's Church 7.30pm. Tickets (£7) from 01446 793010.

The Bridgend Male Voice Choir at St Iltyd's Church, 7.30pm on Friday, August 14, (tickets are £5 or £6).

The finale of the festival, on Sunday, August 16, is 'Free at the Precinct', starting at 11.30am.



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"Neil Diamond Tribute is back again - the women of Llantwit would have strung me up if he hadn't been on the bill - he's got a fantastic voice!"

"The Amigos are making the trip up to Llantwit Major from Cornwall where they are appearing on the Saturday."

"Davy Cartwright plays on the West Country folk festival circuit and his set is a mixture of his own songs plus 'golden oldies' from the likes of the Beatles, Beach Boys, Carole King and James Taylor. "Llantwit bands to look out for are The New Druids, and The Smiths' Tribute Band."

The Precinct won't be bereft of food and drink: "There's going to be a bar, and Thai food which I can assure people is to die for!"

"We did not have one ounce of trouble last year - the people who turn up love music, a good atmosphere and socialising."

"For people who want to come from Bridgend and Barry, it's worth pointing out that it is so easy if you come by train. Just arrive in Llantwit and follow the sound of music to the Precinct."

"We couldn't do all this without the support of Filco, which has allowed us the use of the Precinct."

"Filco is also raffling a 'trolley dash', with the money going to support Summer Sounds."

Local pub says 'welcome to town'



ABOVE: Elenid Carlig, of the Old White Hart, is looking forward to welcoming people to the first event of Summer Sounds on August 8.

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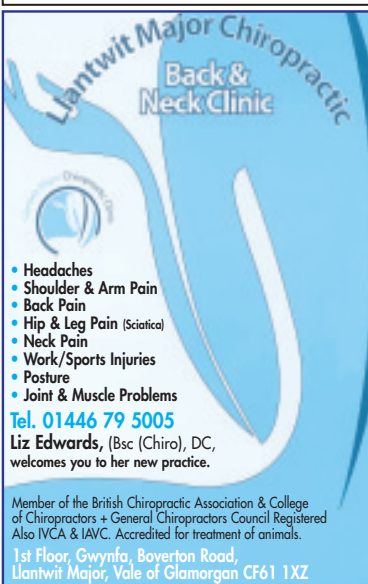
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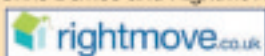


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Blue flags award at Barry and Penarth



ABOVE: Coun Cox, works manager Colin Smith, Coun Ernest, and Council Leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, display the Blue Flag at Barry Island.

WHITMORE BAY (Barry Island) and Penarth Marina have each been awarded a prestigious Blue Flag for high quality.

Tories' summer drinks success

HEAVY rain did not dampen the recent summer drinks party held at Dyffryn Springs, by Dinas Powys and Wenvoe Conservative branches.

The National Assembly was represented by Nick Bourne AM, Leader of the Conservatives group and AMs David Melding and Alun Cairns.

Mr Mike Harvey, chairman of the Wenvoe branch and Mr Andy Robertson, chairman of Dinas Powys, welcomed the 100 members.

In a brief speech, Alun Cairns commented on the "lamentable support given to troops in Afghanistan by the present government," pointing out that the Americans had 100 helicopters on their 13.

Nick Bourne AM commented on large gains made by the Conservatives in recent elections, pointing out that Dinas Powys Community Council had a Conservative chairman this year - Coun Margaret Hayley.

Vale Council leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, cabinet member for building and visible services, Coun Geoff Cox, and cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest, met at Whitmore Bay on June 10, to officially receive the flags from officials.

Coun Kemp said: "The international Blue Flag award scheme currently operates in more than 40 countries and acts as a guarantee that a beach or marina is one of the best in the world."

"We are delighted that both Barry and Penarth have received such global recognition; this is the first time a Vale marina has been credited, making it extra special."

SINCE first making waves with her roles in *Demolition Man* and *Speed*, Sandra Bullock has crafted a varied filmography across a multitude of genres.

Yet it is romantic comedies that have given Bullock the most success, with the likes of *Miss Congeniality*, *Two Weeks Notice* and *Forces of Nature* (to name but three) showcasing the actress' comedic ability.

Her latest film, *The Proposal*, plays in a similar vein, with Bullock as Margaret, a Canadian book publisher who is told that, due to visa issues, she must leave the country right away.

Desperate, she ropes in her assistant Andrew (Ryan Reynolds) to marry her in order to stay in the country.

Forced together, the pair travel to Andrew's hometown for a birthday, intent on learning as much about each other as possible before they are questioned - but will this be the start of something more between the two of them...

BULLOCK'S PROPOSAL IS ALL TOO FAMILIAR SCENE!

There isn't a genre that is any more predictable than that marked 'romantic comedy'. After all, while other types of films can play with expectations and twist and turn you, the romantic comedy is all about two people who end up together at the end having learnt that they really do love each other.

It is a path that *The Proposal* makes no attempt to veer from, and while the end result is as predictable as you would imagine, thanks to some good comedic turns the film doesn't quite falter as much as you would imagine.

This is mainly thanks to the performances of both Bullock and Ryan Reynolds, who are both particularly good comedy performers and who spark the film, despite its overly predictable arc.

Bullock does a neat line in pratfalling comedy while she executes here very well and shows that she is one of the more gifted actresses in these types of films.

There is little demand performance-wise, but she carries off the role

well, and while playing a callous hard-nosed businesswoman, at least allows the faintest hint of empathy within the character to make you feel she isn't wholly beyond redemption.

As her put-upon assistant, Ryan Reynolds is hugely entertaining, charismatic with whip-fast putdowns.

The actor has followed a similar career path to Bullock, but his comedy skills are as sharp as ever here, making a perfect foil for Bullock's uptight persona.

The chemistry with the actress works well, and the pair really raise the film with their performances.

The supporting cast are all competent without stretching themselves, but the best turn comes from Betty White as Andrew's grandmother, all pithy asides and young-at-heart attitude, which raises the biggest laughs.

These three turns are wholly responsible for making the film far more entertaining than it should be.

Director Anne Fletcher is certainly at

home with this genre, having directed the similarly enjoyable-yet-slight *27 Dresses*, and delivers another competent effort here. She shoots the comedy well, bringing a few offbeat tones into what is a rather straightforward affair, with a bird of prey attack sticking out in the memory.

She also gets the pacing just right, even though the film falls into the familiar serious tones of the final act, the comedy being pared back in favour of 'emotion' that is difficult to muster given that the outcome is pretty obvious.

Similarly, the script from Pete Chiarelli, his first, accentuates the skills of Bullock and Reynolds, providing them with ample opportunities to mine the comedy, and by doing this takes the onus away from the generic conventions that seemingly must be adhered to.

It is a script that, much like the film, is rather over familiar but at the same time reasonably entertaining - although you do wish that somebody could find a way of adding a little bit of intrigue, and

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

offer something different, to these types of film.

VERDICT - A comedy that is boosted by the turns of Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds and Betty White, *The Proposal* smacks of the aftertaste of every other romantic film but at least offers something entertaining in lieu of its familiarity.

Pleasing, yet predictable, the performances are the main selling point, and enhance what is ultimately a run of the mill film. *Average*.

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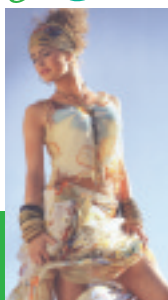
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Out and About with The GEM

Reader saw it in The GEM!



ITHOUGHT you might like to see the result (above) of your news item in last week's GEM about the steam loco *Tornado* passing through Bridgend.

Keep up your good work, without which local people would always be in the dark.

Don Clark, Bridgend

PS: I saw it in The GEM!

What's On

Advice surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Castletand ward – Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell – will hold their regular monthly advice surgery this Saturday, August 1, in the Drop-In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry, between 10.30am-12pm. No appointment necessary.

Contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506116 for details.

Rummage sale

A RUMMAGE sale will be held in All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, on Saturday, August 8, 10am-11.30am.

Entry 20p. All proceeds raised go to charity.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan lottery draw number 576.

● £2000: 535254. ●

£500: 574109. ● £100:

879185. ● £50: 313085.

● £10: 472033, 676382,

787140, 261015, 303552,

794786, 407670, 195390,

806926, 220983, 883849,

425954, 632936, 155185,

568727, 107119, 791988,

198429, 564926, 877808.

● £5: 834620, 653228,

595116, 777452, 595166,

109593, 717024, 271901,

696286, 351659, 545903,

154732, 622951, 664956,

443840, 488552, 346857,

796638, 898734, 300591,

278780, 289707, 366256,

137904, 246415, 112773,

298590, 275571, 221530,

370156.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 09290 672062.

NSPCC garden party basks in a warm glow...

A WARM and sunny afternoon greeted the 120 people who attended the annual garden party organised by Barry Central NSPCC, on July 15, at Dyffryn Gardens.

Mrs Lesley Hughes (chairman) greeted the guests – Coun Emlyn Williams, Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan and his consort Mrs Joan Williams; Coun Howard Hamilton, Mayor of Barry and his consort Mrs Carol Hamilton; Sara Edwards, president of Cardiff branch of NSPCC; Julie George and Jo Leonard, of NSPCC Cardiff headquarters.

A vote of thanks was given by Coun Emlyn

Williams and Coun Howard Hamilton.

Sara Edwards also thanked the committee for their continuous work for NSPCC.

The next event will be a coffee morning on Saturday, August 8, at 10.30am, at Lettons House, Lettons Way, Dinas Powys.

All are welcome.

Musical illusions

LOCAL vocal group Allegro are hosting a 'One Night Only' cabaret evening, featuring guest illusionist Ali Cook on Saturday, August 8, in Maesteg Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Ali Cook has had shows on Sky One and Channel 4. Cabaret seating is sold out but there are still a few balcony tickets left. For tickets contact Allegro on 07963 230427 or Maesteg Town Hall.

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Ancient church issues 'welcome back' invite

THERE will be a special welcome on August 5 for anyone who has been married or christened in the beautiful medieval church of Merthyr Dyfan, Barry.

The church will be open from 2pm-4pm and there will also be a second 'open afternoon' on September 2.

It is hoped all those with a personal, or family connection to the church, believed to be built on the oldest Christian site in Wales, will support the appeal for £25,000 that will allow the church bells to ring out again, and pay for essential repairs, a new drainage system and traditional lime plastering for the interior walls to prevent damp penetration damaging the ancient church.

The appeal has the support of Vale AM Jane Hutt, Barry writer and broadcaster Professor Deirdre Beddow, Coun Rob Curtis of the Vale Council, and Ysgol Maes Dyfan and Oakfield Primary. Both schools use the church as an educational resource.

Much of the present church was built in 1,250 AD, including most of the walls, the font, the base of the preaching cross and the stone altar.

Donations to support the appeal can be sent to the Rector, Father Robert Parrish, Merthyr Dyfan Rectory, 10 Buttrills Road, Barry. (Telephone 01446 735943) or can be handed in at the morning service

which is held every Sunday commencing at 8.45am.

Merthyr Dyfan Church is at the bottom of Merthyr Dyfan Lane, which can be approached on foot by walking down the lane alongside the gates of Barry Cemetery or accessed by car from Port Road Barry.

Owen is on the money opening Marie Curie fete

ON August 1, the Marie Curie hospice annual garden party and fete will take place in Penarth.

Local band, 'Ray Thompson and his Carbon Footprints of Rhythm', will be providing entertainment and there will be the usual face painting, raffle and bargain stalls!

It will be opened at 12.30pm by Owen Money and admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children.

Claire Notman, community fundraiser, said: "We are very grateful to Owen Money for championing the garden party this year. "We hope that with his added support and, (of course) that of the local community, we will raise even more

funds for the Penarth hospice.

"This fun-filled family event is suitable for everyone, so come along and enjoy a relaxing afternoon overlooking the sea while raising funds for a fantastic cause."

"It costs Marie Curie Cancer Care £3.9million to keep the hospice's 30-bed unit open and we need all of your help to continue to fund it. "Last year, more than 500 local people were treated as in-patients in the hospice."

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WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE IN THE VALE?

Mrs Nicola Thompson, **Sycarth, Victoria Park Road, Barry** – two-storey side extension to property, providing garage and additional bedroom. Enlarge existing single storey rear extension. Mr Christopher Roach, **Tregwnt, Glan-y-Mor House, Wick** – barn adjacent to Glan-y-Mor House. Alteration to roof finish (application 2008/02459/FUL for holiday accommodation). Mr and Mrs Jenkins, **23 Norris Close, Penarth** – conservatory to rear of property. Mr Bob Matthews, **R Matthews Construction Ltd, Leckwith Bridge Industrial Estate, Leckwith** – retrospective application for use of yard as demolition and construction yard (including on site storage of associated materials together with the retention of a single storey office block). Mr K Harries, **land south of Green Down, near Llancarfan** – erection of stable block. Mr Christopher Salisbury, **12 Cwrt Ty Mawr, Penarth** – single storey lounge extension. Mr R Evans, **48 Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan** – new dwelling. Mr S Martin, **8 Heol**

Eryr Mor, Barry Island, Barry – new entrance porch and conservatory to rear elevation. Mr Howard Cox, **23 Hollyrood Close, Highlight Park, Barry** – removal of existing sectional garage and construction of detached garage. Mr C Ferriday, **180 Colcot Road, Barry** – two storey side extensions to existing dwelling. Mr David Mills, **Garfield House, Heol-y-Mynydd, Southerndown** – replacement and extension of building to include stables and implement store. Penllyn Estate, Penllyn Estate Farm, Existing **agricultural building, situated 300m to the west of Llwynhelg Farm, Cowbridge** – removal of condition 1 of approval 2008/01504/FUL to allow the composting plant to remain indefinitely. **Agricultural land to the north of Cowbridge by-pass and to the west of Llwynhelg Farm, Cowbridge** – removal of condition 1 of approved 2008/01606/FUL to allow the waste composting plant to be retained for an indefinite period of time. Parochial Church, **All Saints Parish Hall,**

Victoria Square, Penarth – alteration of the existing kitchen to provide disabled wc facilities and a smaller storage area. Alterations of the large existing store to provide a kitchen with servery facilities into the main hall and alteration of the inoperative wc into a dry food store. Reinstatement of the external access to the gallery by opening up the blocked door. Mr Michael Chapman, **3 Downs View, Aberthorn** – two storey extension to the side of dwelling with single storey extension to rear. Mr Hywel and Juliet Elias – **124 Lavernock Road, Penarth** – erection of single storey side extension. Mr Elwyn Kerslake – **117 Court Road, Barry** – proposed change of use of retail unit (redundant) to single residential unit (flat). Mr M Bin-Sufyan – **3 Vere Street, Barry** – alteration of planning condition number 4 (0501437/FUL). New hours to be 10am-11.30pm Monday to Saturday and 10am-10.30pm Sundays. Mrs Cheryl Andrews – **6 Dunraven Close, Dinas Powys** – double storey extension and single storey extension to rear. Mr Andrew Thomas – **land adjacent to River View, East Aberthaw** – proposed detached garage and store room. Mr Manji Keral – **8**

Handel Close, Penarth – demolition of detached garage and rear porch, new single storey side and rear extension. Evenlode Primary School – **Evenlode Primary School, Evenlode Avenue** – erection of single storey extension to boys' toilet. Mr David Griffiths – **9 Lon-yr-Eglwys, St Brides Major** – privacy screen to flat roof to form balcony. Mr Mark Davies – **Ben's Barbers 2, 2A The Square, Rectory Drive, St Athan** – change of use of property from D1 (non-residential institution) to A1 (shop). Mr Patrick Stanton – **46 Fairfield Road, Penarth** – extensions and alterations to dwelling, including gable and dormer extension to roof. Mr Jonathan Bird – **Dyffryn Springs, Home Farm, Dyffryn** – temporary permission for a period of 36 months for the erection of a marquee for the months of May to September in any calendar year. Mr George Moore – **Waverley Care Centre, 122-124 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – construction of a new conservatory area to the rear of the Waverley Care Centre. Mr Michael Cochlin – **63 Redlands Road, Penarth** – replacement detached garage to rear of property. Mr Raymond Goodman – **83 Queens Road, Penarth** – single storey extension to provide disabled facilities.

Philip Latham – **1 Heol Ty Mawr, Pendoylan** – fell ash. Mr M Zeraschi – **57 Pontypridd Road, Barry** – application to regularise unauthorised works further to approved plans 04/01330/FUL. Mr Anthony Neill – **90 Colcot Road, Barry** – proposed rear extension and roof alterations. Mr Lee Grindlay – **3 Thompson Street, Barry** – change of use from retail unit to tattoo studio. Mr Paul Baker – **125 Stanwell Road, Penarth** – proposed single storey extension to rear of property. Mr Michael Camilleri – **Llangoedmor, 10 Marine Parade, Penarth** – erection of a single storey detached garage. Mr Graham Sharkey – **Barkways Cottage, The Downs, St Nicholas** – addition of boundary screen fence with brick piers above an existing brick faced boundary retaining wall. Mr Dennis Palmer – **Northcliff Farm, Dyffryn, St Nicholas** – construction of farm office and staff building. Mr Wadih Nasrallah – **14 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – take down and rebuild the external walls of the Coach House to implement planning permission 2008/01387/FUL. Mr Mark Frost – **18 Upper Cosmeston Farm, Penarth** – single storey rear extension to dining room. Vale of Glamorgan

County Council – **The County Library, King Square, Barry** – 1, Signage mounted flush on glazing of entrance elevation; 2, New sign suspended with existing glazed lantern on building. Bayside Ltd – **Cambrian Marina Boatyard and adjoining land, Watkiss Way** – hotel (including conference suite, gym, spa, restaurants and bars), residential, retail, office and food and drink units, parking and service areas, new access, public realm and new river edge revetment (Cardiff reference 08/02191/C). Mrs Dwyer – **17 Laburnum Way, Dinas Powys** – fell oak in rear garden. Messrs Peter and Michael O'Leary – **Victoria Inn, Singingstone, Cowbridge** – extend existing planning permission to convert first floor to four en-suite letting rooms and ground floor extension – renewal of the approval application 04/01001/FUL. R Robson – **5 Trepit Road, Wick** – single storey extension to rear and single storey extension to front of property plus addition of detached garage. Mr Julian Morgan – **3 Ivy Cottage, Rhose Road, Rhose** – conservatory. Mr Ronny Crawley – **1 Old Port Road, Wenvoe** – erection of a pigeon loft (retrospective consent). Newydd Housing Association – **site of**

former St Luke's Church, Elfed Avenue, Penarth – erection of four dwellings and associated works. Mr N Arnold – **land off Park Road (site of former community hall), Garden Suburb, Barry** – construction of one detached dwelling with detached garage. Mrs Rosina Gentile – **6 Per Close, Dinas Powys** – proposed garage conversion. Mr Andrew Morris – **Yew Tree Cottage, West Aberthaw** – erection of two stables, tack room and hay storage barn. Mr and Mrs Mason – **1 Heol-y-Coed, Llantwit Major** – installation of uPVC conservatory to rear elevation. Mr and Mrs P and J Thomas – **Lydmore Farm, Dyffryn** – single storey building for use as stables, tack room and storage to replace existing outbuildings. Ms Sharon Glyde – **Merriswinds, Groesfaen Road, Peterston Super Ely** – erection of balcony at first floor level to rear elevation of property. Mr Roger Mundy – **rear of 24 Bassett Road, Sully** – erection of two semi-detached dormer bungalows with associated parking. Mrs Andrea Robson – **Tresaith, Church Street, Llysorweny** – erection of summerhouse at rear of garden. Mr Nigel Harris – **Great House (Ty Mawr), A48, Bonvilston** – demolition of northern stone boundary wall, creation of new highway access into

rebuilt and relocated stone boundary wall and creation of car parking hardstanding. Mrs Susan Haigh – **4 Stradling Close, Cowbridge** – single storey extension and loft conversion to include new and enlarged dormers to the front and rear elevations. Mr S Watkins – **37 Althorp Drive, Penarth** – demolition of existing single storey structure and rebuild new. Mr Michael Goodfellow – **Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys** – replace severely rotten wooden window in rear of Parish Hall with new hardwood window in Georgian style to match the front of the building; replace severely rotten wooden door and above window at rear of Parish Hall with hardwood replacement to match and locks to comply with insurance requirements. Mrs Emma Parker – **10 Harriet Street, Cogan, Penarth** – change of use from day nursery (D1) to Ballet Studio (D2). Mr W Cheshire – **134 Holton Road, Barry** – proposed conversion of vacant shop into café. Governing Body of the St David's Church in Wales School – **St David's Church in Wales School, Colwinston** – proposed conservatory to classroom year-1 for experiential play area. Mr and Mrs Rees – **4 Raisdale Gardens, Penarth** – fell lime tree.



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Stone built three bedroom mid terrace house which has been modernised and extended in recent years comprising Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, En-suite to master bedroom, Bathroom/WC. Gas central heating. Double glazed windows and doors. Stonebuilt garden store/workshop. Freehold Ref 458D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £100,000

Modern well maintained three bedroom link property comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Dining room, Ground floor cloakroom, Bathroom/WC. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Low maintenance garden. Freehold £100,000 Ref 443D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £310,000

Well established detached family residence and detached garage with adjoining study and shower room to the rear and occupying a large plot of ground. Comprising Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Cloakroom, Three double bedrooms plus Attic room. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Driveway and good size gardens to front and rear. Freehold. Ref 437D



ST ATHAN VILLAGE - £235,000

Very well presented detached family residence and detached garage standing in quite a large plot comprising Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Dining Room/1st Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Ground Floor Bathroom, Two bedrooms to first floor. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Long driveway and well laid gardens to front and rear and purpose built workshop. Freehold Ref 449D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £275,000

Spacious modern well maintained four bedroom detached house comprising Lounge, Dining Room, Newly fitted well equipped Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Cloakroom, UPVC double glazed Conservatory, En-suite to two of the bedrooms plus Family Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Driveway and established gardens. Freehold. Ref 446D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £450,000

The Curriers Guest house formerly known as the 'Currier Arms' and prior two cottages built circa 1800 situated in the conservation area of the town. Two independent entrances comprising four reception rooms, two kitchens, six bedrooms with H & C facilities, two bathrooms and shower room. Gas central heating. All regulations in place. Guest House or family residence. Freehold Ref 431D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £164,500

Well maintained modern three bedroom end of link dwelling house and garage comprising Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room with patio doors to rear, Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Cloakroom and utility area to rear of garage. Driveway and garden to front and rear. Summerhouse and greenhouse to remain. Freehold. Ref 444D



LLANTWIT MAJOR - £285,000

Modern four bedroom detached house with double garage situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room with patio doors to rear garden. Well equipped fitted kitchen, Breakfast/Utility Room, En-suite to master bedroom, Family Bathroom. Gas Central Heating. UPVC double glazing. Driveway and open plan to front and private garden to the rear. Freehold. Ref 445D

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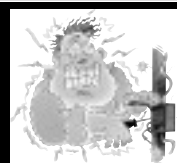
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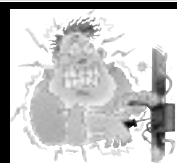
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Birth Notices

Congratulations Sophie Nia Roberts

Born July 22nd to Sam & Barrie,
weighing 8lb 11½ oz.

Sister to Tomas.

All our love from Granny,
Grandpa and all the family.

xxxxxx

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Congratulations
Ceri Jenkins
&
Nicholas Hunt
on your Engagement on July 14, 2009
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your future together.
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very happy families.

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5th BIRTHDAY
(3rd August)
To my little man,
love you everything.
Mummy
x x
Also lots of birthday
hugs from
Nana, Papa
& Uncle Stephen
x x

Family Notices

Birthday Remembrance August 4th
Kevin John POOL
Birthday love to our dearest son Kevin.

*"If you feel a gentle breeze,
Or hear the softest sigh,
You will know it's our birthday wish,
Travelling up so high.
Catch this love we're sending,
It's the best we can do,
How we wish with all our hearts,
We could spend the day with you."*

You are so sadly missed Kev, but you will never be forgotten. The pain of losing you doesn't get any easier - Always in our hearts.
Love Mum, Dad and family in Portsmouth

Birthday memories of
Thomas K Forman (Joe)
31 July 1925 -
14 January 2009
My love for you was special,
A love that's warm and true,
and I was truly blessed
when I belonged to you.
Love as always,
your wife Gwyneth.

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With all our love on your
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From all your Grandchildren
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CLIO 1.2
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2010, one lady owner.
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1.3 Finesse
White, alloys, sunroof,
power steering, 79,000
miles, 11 months MOT.
£1,195 ono
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2000 X Reg
Ford Fiesta
Zetec S
Moondust Silver, 3 door,
Zetec S extras, 44k, new
MOT, 6 months tax, open to
offers.
£1,785
07884 431858 30

S Reg
Mazda 626
Taxed End of July, MOT
Sept, 70,000 miles, lovely
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SXT AUTO
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BARRY CENTRAL TURN THE BOWLING TIDE

AFTER several weeks of defeats, Barry Central entertained Rhoose Bowling Club in a Munro Cup game and managed to win by 12-2, with the Central bowlers winning on three rinks to one.

The results were as follows: Rink one: G Thomas 22, B Ewer 14; Rink two: H Spencer 19, L Parsons (Jnr) 18; Rink three: J Bratcher 11, A Ball 15; Rink four: E Hudd 23, E Morris 7.

The victory over Rhoose by 75-54 gave the Central team a great incentive to challenge their next opponents.

Central looked forward to entertaining the league leaders Senghenydd at Gladstone Gardens.

Alan Davies and John Jones proved to be the best of the home rinks.

Alan's rink found themselves equal on shots after 10 ends, but after the 12th end Alan's rink surged forward to win by eight shots.

John Jones' rink proved to be too good

for the opposition and after 14 ends were winning by 12 shots, with the opposition unable to gain any advantage.

The other two rinks did not fare as well as the others. Ted Hudd's rink had a tough time and found themselves behind after 14 ends.

After the 15th end, the visitors picked up 11 shots without reply to win by nine shots.

Dave Roach's rink had a torrid afternoon. Scores were level pegging after 10 ends, but the opposition gained eight shots on consec-

utive ends, resulting in Dave's rink salvaging a deficit of a couple of shots.

By scoring five shots on the last three ends, this was enough to reduce the deficit to two shots.

The results were as follows: Rink one: D Roach (capt) 17, K Carter 19; Rink two: A Davies 22, D Pritchard 14; Rink three: E Hudd 15, K Davies 24; Rink four: J Jones 27, G Cross 13.

The overall result was a victory for the home side by 81-70 which will, hopefully, secure their position in Division Three.

The club now look forward to the challenge of facing Llantwit Major on Saturday, and also playing on Wednesday of next week in the Munro Cup - it will be interesting who gets the upper hand prior to next Saturday.

As part of the club's centenary year, members look forward to the visit on Monday next of the president of the Welsh Bowling Association.

Members are looking forward to extending their hospitality to the players who will attend and assure them of a cordial welcome, and particularly to the president himself.

Maximum points for Athletic bowlers

SKIP Milton Eskins helped steer Barry Athletic's PG2 squad to victory with another top rink performance at Barry Plastics, Sully on Saturday.

Milton's line-up of young lead Steve McKernan, club stalwart Ron Glaves and Ivor Stevenson earned a 27-17 win that lifted Athletic to an overall 74-69 triumph - and 10 points.

The previous week, the same rink had registered a runaway score against Pontyclun in a

thrilling match at the Island, giving the Athletic a one-shot match win.

The four bowlers produced consistent form throughout at Sully.

Gareth Humphreys skipped the other winning rink (18-10) that featured Derek Coombs, captain Eric Booker and Bill Summerell.

This weekend, the PG1 team travel to Ely Valley, while the PG2 side entertain Llanbradach.

On Sunday morning, the annual Ron Thomas Open Pairs Competition gets underway at the

Island in what is a popular week-long event.

Scores: PG2 at BP Sully - S McKernan, R Glaves, I Stevenson, M Eskins 27 - K Tucker, D Goodman, M Morgan, E Roberts 17.

D Coombs, E Booker, W Summerell, G Humphreys 18 - J Mulcock, B Hogg, G Trickett, G Williamson 10.

A Pidduck, J Jupp, B Turner, D Newman 16 - P Robbins, W Hayward, A Goddard, P Jenkins 20. A Thomas, P Clarke, G Thomas, A Mintern 13 - B Curtis, D Dyer, V Messer, D Clayton 22.

COWBRIDGE BOWLS CLUB NEWS

ONLY two games were played last week, both ending in defeats for Cowbridge Bowling Club.

First the ladies, in their league match away to Llantwit Major, lost 33-63.

With only May Jones' rink of Lynda Wilson, Pat Houldsworth and Janet Legg winning 17-9, Joan Bradley's rink, lost 8-25, and Judy Springett's rink lost 8-29.

The men didn't fare any better, in their away fixture at Taffs Well, losing 50-98.

Roger Barwick again winning on the last end for two valuable points, with the help of Ron Frayling, John Trott and Mike Bradley. Score: 18-16.

The other three rinks all lost badly: Brian Kent's rink 9-27; David Jones' rink 14-22 and Byron Richards' rink 9-33.

NJW

Clampdown on anti-social cars on Waterfront

NEIGHBOURHOOD Police officers in the Casteland area of Barry are targeting drivers who use their vehicles in an anti-social manner - particularly in the Waterfront area.

It was highlighted as a PACT priority by Castleland residents who highlighted concerns over so-called 'max Power' rallies and the resulting litter and other anti-social issues.

Police report that in the first three days of the campaign, four illegal vehicles were

seized and a further 15 issued with defect warnings.

Two people were arrested and a further 13 issued with Anti Social Behaviour referrals. Eight people have been issued with £75 Fixed Penalties for littering.

Acting Sergeant Stuart Wong said: "The operation will run through the summer and is designed to stamp out the continuing anti social behaviour in the waterfront area of the town."

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07 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	13,000miles	£5,995
06 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	17,609miles	£5,295
06 1.0i Vibe 3dr Hatch	Red	19,600miles	£5,195

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07 1.1i Design 3dr Hatch	Black	16,900miles	£5,995
56 1.6i 16v by LOEB Sp Eds	Red	20,700miles	£6,995

CITROEN C3			
56 1.1i Desire Special Edition	Blue	19,522miles	£5,995
06 1.6i 16v VTR 5dr Hatch	Red	13,749miles	£6,995
06 1.4i HDi Desire 5dr Hatch	Steel	22,267miles	£6,995
06 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	15,000miles	£6,995
06 1.1i L 5dr Hatch	Red	1,534miles	£5,995
06 1.4i SX	Gold	44,150miles	£5,995
05 1.4i 16v Rhythm 5dr Hatch	Silver	30,497miles	£5,795
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08 1.6i 16v Forte 5-dr Estate	Beige	17,050miles	£7,995
07 1.6i 16v Forte 5-dr Estate	Silver	9,797miles	£7,495
06 1.6 HDi Forte 5dr Diesel Estate	Red	31,600miles	£6,995

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO			
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08 1.6 HDi 92 Desire Diesel Estate	Grey	15,500miles	£9,495
08 1.6 HDi 92 Desire 5dr Diesel Est	Silver	15,000miles	£9,495
06 2.0i 16v VTX 5-dr Auto Estate	Beige	23,000miles	£7,995
06 1.6 92 Exclusive 5-dr Diesel Est	Silver	25,040miles	£7,995
06 1.6i 16v Exclusive 5-dr Estate	Beige	23,220miles	£7,495
06 1.6i 16v Desire 5-dr Estate	Beige	25,036miles	£6,995
06 1.6i 16v Desire 5-dr Estate	Gold	25,753miles	£6,995
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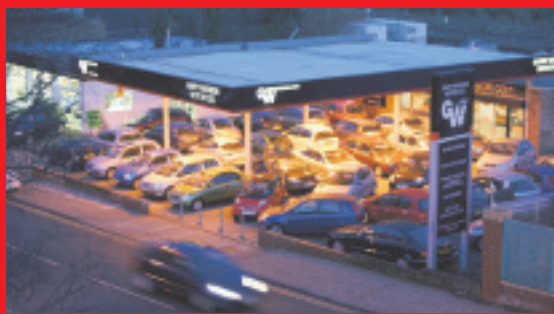


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03 FORD Focus 1.6 Ebony 3dr in black, ONLY 43K, FSH. Stunning condition leather, a/c, alloys	£4,995
03 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Ghia 5dr in silver met, ONLY 21,000 miles ONE OWNER, a/c, alloys, loaded	£4,995
03 SMART Fortwo 700 Semi-A Passion Brabus in silver, FULL BRABUS, 37,000 miles, FULL SERVICE HISTORY. Air con, e/w, windows, auto	£4,995
06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport 3dr in silver, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH, air con, electric windows, remote locking, PAS, e/m. ONLY GROUP 2 insurance, low tax band. Part exchange welcome, and many finance packages available	£4,795
V LEXUS IS 200 SE 2.0 Navigator In green met, 88,000 miles FSH. SAT NAVIGATION, air con, leather, e windows	£4,524
52 RENAULT Clio 2.0 16v Renaultsport 172 in silver met, ONLY 65,000 miles FULL SERVICE HISTORY. Leather/alcantara, a/c climate	£4,495
05 RENAULT Clio 1.2 3dr Rush LE in silver. Lovely 2 owners 16,000 miles, alloys, E/W, S/R, CD, Cheap TAX. ONLY	£4,495
06 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCI 3dr Campus (a/c) Diesel in black met, DIESEL capable of 50 MPG +. ONLY £35 per yr road tax, GRP 3 ins, a/c, alloys, pas	£4,495
03 MAZDA 6 2.0 S (a/c) 5dr Estate in mint met, 2003 model ESTATE. FULL SERVICE HISTORY	£4,495
Y TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi 190T Sport in blue met. FSH, air con, e/w, windows, remote locking, alloys, e/m, PAS, Stunning condition	£4,294
02 BMW 320i SE Touring in grey met. Facelift Estate. FSH, a/c, alloys, climate, cruise	£3,995
04 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Automatic Climate a/c in vogue grey. Top of the range Auto Excellent condition throughout 5dr hatch with FULL SERVICE HISTORY. Air conditioning, alloy wheels, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, heated front screen. Must be seen	£3,995
05 VOLKSWAGEN L135 TDI MWB in white full VW service history, in built office room with rear cab storage. POWER STEERING, DIESEL	£3,995
04 RENAULT Clio 1.2-16v Dynamique 5dr in white, ONLY 36,000 miles. Low ins grp 3, low tax band, pas, CD, e/w, alloys	£3,995
55 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection 3dr in azure blue met, ONLY 36,000 miles. FSH, GRP 3 ins, MAIN DEALER SERVICED. e/w, a/c	£3,995
T MAZDA MX-5 1.8 Cabriolet 10th Anniversary Edition in blue. RARE Ltd Ed. UK CAR Leather/alcantara, alloys	£3,995
03 FORD Focus 1.6-16v Zetec in silver, climate pack, a/c, alloy, SERVICE HISTORY. Immaculate	£3,995
04 CITROEN C3 1.1 3dr Desire Silver, ONLY 32,000 miles FSH	£3,995
53 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 16v 5dr in silver met, NEW SHAPE 5dr covered ONLY 38,000 miles. FSH. Card system, excellent condition	£3,995
03 FORD Focus Zetec 1.6 5dr Focus Focus Zetec 1.6 5dr 5 door hatchback in silver. With 54,000 miles, petrol manual, air conditioning	£3,995
54 ROVER Streetwise 2.0 SE TD blue met TURBO DIESEL Covered ONLY 22,000 miles in e/windows, remote central locking, 17" alloys	£3,795
02 FORD Focus 1.6-16v 5dr Zetec red metallic, JUST 48,000 miles. With service history, in fantastic condition, air con, e/w, windows, alloys	£3,495
02 RENAULT Clio 2.0 172 Renaultsport Genuine 172 BHP model, not to be confused with. Completely original, untouched example covered ONLY 65,000 miles complete with SERVICE HISTORY. In quicksilver pearl metallic, with 17" light weight genuine Renault Option alloy wheels. Charcoal leather! a	£3,495
52 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 5dr silver, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH, electric windows, remote locking, PAS, e/m. ONLY GROUP 3 insurance	£2,995
03 RENAULT Clio 1.1 3dr Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088, or call Tim on 07815 737694. Part exchange welcome, and many finance packages available	£2,995
51 ROVER 75 2.0 DIESEL 4dr in blue metallic, 66,000 BMW DIESEL engine, Stunning condition	£2,995
03 Ford Ka 1.3i Collection Silver, 38,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition	£2,995
04 DAEWOO Matiz 1.0 SE Plus 5dr in silver, 42k LOW INSURANCE, cheaper tax	£2,995
52 RENAULT Clio 1.2-16v Expression 5dr in yellow met, covered ONLY 66,000 miles. Immaculate 5dr, GRP 3 insurance, a/c, pas, e/w	£2,995
52 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3dr 46,000 Miles Silver, 46,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition	£2,795
Y PEUGEOT Expert 1.3 Diesel Panel Van in white, low mileage DIESEL	£2,495
X PEUGEOT 306 2.0 HDI LX 5dr In Inka gold metallic. Extremely economical DIESEL 5dr hatch in fantastic condition. Full charcoal velour interior, alloy wheels, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, CD player. Capable of over 50 MPG	£2,495
Y FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5dr in red metallic, ONLY 66,000 miles. Beautiful condition, pas	£2,495
N DAIHATSU Fourtrak 2.8 TDL SE Independent Finished in azurite blue metallic with charcoal cloth seats. Late generation 2.8 face lift model with electric windows, remote alarm, power steering, artificial horizon, diff lock. FULL SERVICE HISTORY in fantastic original condition	£1,995
W FORD Escort 1.6 16v Finesse In blue met, completely original covered ONLY 56,000 miles. Estate in fantastic condition	£1,995
02 HYUNDAI Amica 1.0 GSI 5dr green metallic covered ONLY 30,000 miles with FULL SERVICE HISTORY, air conditioning, power steering	£1,995
S HONDA Civic 1.5 LSIVTEC 5dr Hatch in red, ONLY 84,000 miles with service history. Fantastic condition	£1,995
W RENAULT Clio 1.2 Grande 3dr in silver met, excellent value part ex to clear. 99,000 miles MOT. Excellent condition	£1,995
R FORD Escort 1.8 GTI 3dr 68,000 mile car with SERVICE HISTORY. In Calypso blue metallic, genuine 3dr GTI completely original	£1,995
X FORD KA Now 1.3 3dr Red, 56,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition	£1,795
X FIAT Punto 1.2 Mira 3dr City In topaz blue metallic, covered ONLY 73,000 miles. ONLY GROUP 2 insurance, and low tax band	£1,795
04 FORD Fiesta 1.3 Finesse 3dr green met, FSH, electric windows, central locking, PAS, e/m. Only Group 3 insurance	£1,495
X RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique Auto Totally unmarked finished in moonstone silver with charcoal zebrano. Beautiful top of the range 1.6 5dr family hatch. Genuine factory option upgrade alloy wheels, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, automatic rain	£1,495
R CITROEN Saxo 1.1 SX 5dr in silver, /EX to clear on trade basis. MOT and 2 month tax	£995
DATSUN Stanza 1.8 SGL 5dr in almonde red pearl. Completely original, genuine 47,000 mile, AUTOMATIC example. A now, collectable, and ultra reliable Japanese classic. Will not disappoint at.	£995
L TOYOTA Celica 2.0 3dr in red, later shape ST202 in great condition 12 months MOT	£995
C NISSAN Cherry 1.3 SGL 3dr Completely original car covered ONLY 31,000 miles. FULL SERVICE HISTORY, 12 months MOT	£995
F FORD Fiesta 1.3 3dr Classic MK2. ONE LOCAL OWNER. ONLY 32,000 miles WARRENTED.	£995
H NISSAN Sunny 1.3 16v Van FWD In Artic White, a superb project - a very early Japanese icon from the 1990's. It is ready for anything and would make a great retro surfing van, weekend away toy or even a everyday workhorse - a rare find indeed and for sale at.	£995



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54 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 1.6 HDI (Diesel) 110 3-dr. Finished in Aegean blue with full black leather, sports pack, alloys, a/c, multipack cd, 44k £6195



04/53 MERCEDES ML 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto 5-dr. Finished in met silver with full black leather, alloys, a/c, cd, fsh, 63k £11495



05 BMW X5 Sport Auto 3.0D (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in toledo blue with full cream leather trim, comms pack, climate, radio, cd, fsh, 68k £17495



54 VW T30 Shuttle SWB SE 2.5 TDI (Diesel) 9 seats Auto 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 117k £11495

CONVERTIBLES

- 05 VOLVO C70 2.0T GT Convertible. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 46k £8995
03 AUDI TT Roadster (150). Finished in black with black sports cloth trim, 19inch upgrade alloys, climate control, radio, cd, 74k £8795

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

- 57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) (150bhp) 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather, sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k £9695
07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.6 VXR 3-dr. Finished in met black, half leather, alloys, a/c, cd, sports seats, 23k £10495
56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+. Finished in met black with 1/2 leather sports trim, alloys, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 38k £5295
55 SEAT Leon FR TDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, climate, radio, cd £8995
55 FIAT Stilo 1.4 16v Active Sport 3-dr. Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 43k £4195
55 FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST. Finished in red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, cd, 44k £6995
05 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDI (Diesel) (140) 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, multichanger, fsh, 39k £9795
54 MERCEDES CLK 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto. Finished in met black with full black leather, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 59k £12995
54 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 1.6 HDI (Diesel) 110 3-dr. Finished in Aegean blue with full black leather, sports pack, alloys, a/c, multipack cd, 44k £6195
04/53 MERCEDES ML 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto 5-dr. Finished in met. silver with full black leather, alloys, a/c, cd, fsh, 63k £11495
04 FORD Sport Ka 1.6. Finished in met. Grey with sports cloth trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 30k £3695
53 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 GT TDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k £6295
03 MINI 1.6 Cooper. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, multichanger, 46k £6995
52 MERCEDES ML 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto 5-dr. Finished in black with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, family pack, 7 seats, fsh, 85k £9495
52 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in china blue met, leather/suede interior, pas, alloys, climate, cd £3995
51 RENAULT Clio 172 Sport. Finished in black with leather suede trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3795
Y PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in met silver, black leather trim, alloys, climate, cd, 36k £3495

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

- 56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06/55 CITROEN VTR Estate 1.6 HDI (Diesel). Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 63k £6495
55 VAUXHALL Meriva Design 1.7 CDTI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, sunroof, radio/cd, 55k £5795
55 PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9 (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 33k £5495
05 BMW X5 Sport Auto 3.0D (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in toledo blue with full cream leather trim, comms pack, climate, radio, cd, fsh, 68k £17495
05 NISSAN Terrano 2.7 TDI (Diesel) LWB 5-dr SE 7 seater. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £5995
05 RENAULT Megane Sport Tourer Dynamique 1.9 DCI (Diesel) Estate. Met grey, alloys, climate, cd, fsh, 1 owner £4695
54 VW T30 Shuttle SWB SE 2.5 TDI (Diesel) 9 seats Auto 5-dr. Finished in met. silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 117k £11495
54 MITSUBISHI L200 2.8 TD (Diesel) Warrior Double Cab Pick Up. Finished in met champagne silver with full black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio, cd £5795
04/53 MERCEDES ML 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto 5-dr. Finished in met. silver with full black leather, alloys, a/c, cd, fsh, 63k £11495
04 MAZDA 6 2.0D TS (Diesel) Estate. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, cruise control, 73k £5495
03 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Fdjl. Finished in met silver, half suede upholstery, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 47k £3295
52 MERCEDES ML 270 CDI (Diesel) Auto 5-dr. Finished in black with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, family pack, 7 seats, fsh, 85k £9495
02 LAND ROVER Range Rover HSE 4.4 Auto 5-dr. Finished in oslo blue with full navy blenheim leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 87k £12695
02 HONDA HR-V 4x4 1.6 Auto 3-dr. Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4495

FAMILY CARS

- 07/57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k £9695
06 CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe. Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k £4995
55 VOLKSWAGEN Passat SE 1.9 TDI (Diesel) 4-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 63k £7495



54 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 FSI 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd, 6 speed, fsh, 65k £6,695



55 FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST. Finished in red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, cd, 44k £6,995



05 VOLVO C70 2.0T GT Convertible. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 46k £8995



57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) (150bhp) 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather, sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k £9695

- 05 SEAT Altea Reference 1.6 5-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, con, 34k £6495
05 SKODA Octavia 2.0 FSI Elegance 5-Dr. Finished in met. silver, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 32k £5995
05 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.6 TDCi (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in tonic blue met, alloys, a/c, cd, 70k £5995
54 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 FSI 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, air con, radio/cd, 6 speed, fsh, 65k £6695
04 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 4-dr. Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4295
53 FORD Mondeo Zetec 2.0 5-dr. Finished in met. blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 92k £3495
53 FORD Mondeo Graphite 1.8 5-dr. Finished in met. grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 66k £3495
03 CITROEN C5 LX 5-Dr 2.0 HDI (Diesel). Finished in met red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 81k £2995
03 ROVER 75 1.8T Club SE 4-dr. Finished in met. blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, alloys £2995
02 CITROEN C5 SX 2.0 HDI (Diesel) 110 5-dr. Finished in white, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 75k £2695
51 TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 VVTi GS 5-dr. Finished in met red, a/c, radio, cd, pas, c/l, e/w, 67k £2695

SMALL CARS

- 08 (New Shape) VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life 3-dr. Finished in black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio, cd, 15k £6995
57 SMART Fortwo Pure 71 Auto. Finished in black, pas, r/c/l, cd, 6k, only £35 per year road tax £5495
07 FORD Fiesta Zetec Climate 1.4 TDCi (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 42k, only £35 per year road tax £6795
56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 3-dr. Finished in met moon dust silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 48k £5995
56 CITROEN C1 1.0 Vibe 3-dr. Finished in yellow, pas, radio/cd, rear wash wipe, 43k £4995
56 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr. Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k £4695
06 CITROEN C3 1.4 Stop and Start Sensitive Auto 5-dr. Finished in met blue, a/c, s/r, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, paddle shift, 16k £5995
06 PEUGEOT 206 Verve 1.4 HDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, 36k £5995
06 FORD Fiesta Zetec 1.25 5-dr. Finished in panther black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 34k £5795
05 MAZDA 2 1.4 Antares 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, 27k £4995
55 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in Mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k £4795
54 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.5 DCI (Diesel) 3-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, s/r, cd, 70k, only £35 a year tax £4195
04 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr. Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k £4995
04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd £3995
04 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr. Finished in forest green, pas, cd £3995
53 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-dr. Finished in lagoon blue met, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 50k £3295
53 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr. Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k £4495
53 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Fever 3-dr. Finished in moonstone blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 39k £3695
53 FORD Ka 1.3 finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys £3195
03/03 FORD KA 1.3 Luxury 3-dr. Finished in pepper red met with full magnolia leather, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3695
03 MINI 1.6 Cooper. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, multichanger, 46k £6995
52 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-dr finished in met green, alloys, air con, radio/cd, 54k £3495
52 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Club 5-Dr. Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, 63k £2795
02 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd £2995
Y PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Style 3-dr. Finished in crystal met green, pas, c/l, e/w, cd £2495

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

- 07/56 VOLKSWAGEN Transporter T28 1.9 TDI (Diesel) SWB Van. Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, c/l, radio/cd, 46k £7995 + VAT
56 CITROEN Berlingo 600 LX (Diesel) van. Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, e/w, 59k £4295 + VAT
05 FORD Transit 260 FWD 2.0 (Diesel) SWB medium roof. Finished in blue, ply lined, side loading door, full roller roof rack, pas, remote locking, 54k £5495 + VAT
03 FORD Transit 280 SWB TD (Diesel). Day van/surf van, finished in white, side loading door, dual passenger seat, partial conversion to include bed wardrobe storage, butane gas cooker auxiliary power, mains electric hook up, cooler box, radio/cd, 64k £4495

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05 NISSAN Micra 1.2 S
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T MAZDA MX5 1.8 Convertible
Just 49k, 2 owners, e/pack, alpine cd system, alloys, hard top included.



V MITSUBISHI Colt 1.8 Spacewagon
Just 38k, FSH, full e/pack, plush interior, ideal family MPV.



52 CLIO 1.2 Authentique
Pas, cd, 70k

- 07 CITROEN C2 1.4 HDi Furio. Fsh, alloys, jazzy trim, e/pack, 60mpg, £35 per year tax £6295
- 06 RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique. 20k, 1 owner + demo, a/con, alloys, cd player, unique styling at £5995
- 55 HYUNDAI Getz 1.4 GSi 1 owner, 60k, cd player, e/w, c/l, low tax & ins, stunning at £3995
- 55 MITSUBISHI Colt 1.1 CZ1 Low tax & ins, e/pack, cd player, 50mpg. Huge saving from new. £2995
- 05 HONDA Accord 2.0 SE. Service history, e/pack, alloys, a/con, reverse sensors, lovely example £4995
- 05 FORD Ka 1.3. Lady owner, 17k, p/steering, ideal 1st car, low tax & insurance £3995
- 54 CITROEN C8 Exclusive 2.0 HDi **Auto**. FSH, suede interior, air con, alloys, top spec. 7 seater £6995
- 54 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8 Design. 70k, FSH, air con, alloys, cd system, superb 7 seater, please view £4395
- 04 HONDA Accord 2.2 Executive CDTi. Top of the range, full leather, low road tax, fsh, in royal blue £5995
- 04 HONDA Accord 2.2 CDTi Exec. 90k, fsh, 1 owner, leather, a/c, alloys, superb mpg . . . £5995
- 04 FIAT Punto 1.2 8 Valve Active. 50k, lady owner, e/pack, cd system, low tax and insurance, only £3495
- 53 SMART For Two City Pulse Only 1 owner, only 40k with service history £3995
- 53 CITROEN CS 2.0 HDi VTR Fsh, alloys, a/c, cd system, sports trim, super mpg at £2995
- 03 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE 70k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins £2995
- 52 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 LX SW 55k, fsh, e/pack, alloys, a/c, cd, low ins, lovely estate at . . £3995
- 52 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX 70k, a/con, cd system, low ins £3495
- 52 RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique, fsh, 45+ mpg, only £2995
- 52 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Comfort. Two owners, 70k, FSH, alloys, CD player, walnut trim, stunning at just £2995
- 52 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression. Alloys, e/pack, cd player, low tax & ins, ideal first car £2995
- 52 RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique. 90k, s/history, a/con, alloys, plush interior, 50mpg £2695
- 02 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 6Ti. 60k, fsh, half leather, alloys, cd system, e/pack, a gem at . . . £4295
- 02 VW GOLF 2.0 SE Estate. Only 79k, in superb order, versatile vehicle for £3995
- 02 PEUGEOT 406 Executive 2.0 HDi 62k, s/history, leather, a/con, alloys superb mpg . . £2995
- 02 PEUGEOT Partner 1.9 Diesel Combi. FSH, e/pack, cd system, superb MPG with good versatility £2995
- 02 RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Expression 60k, e/pack, cd system, air con, plush interior, ideal family hatch £2695
- 02 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2. P/Steering, e/pack, low tax and insurance, viewing essential . . £2495
- 01 VOLVO S80 2.4SE Auto. Nice miles, FSH inc. T/Belt leather, air con, multi disc, alloys, top spec at £2995
- 51 DAEWOO Tacuma 2.0 CDX **Auto** 70k, lady owner, versatility £2995
- 51 ALPHA ROMEO 156 1.6 Sportswagon. 2 owners, fsh, alloys, e/pack, a/con, cd player, rare car £2695
- 51 ROVER 25 1.6 il alloys, a/con, e/pack, superb at £1995
- Y VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi Lady owner, upgrade alloys, cd system, e/pack, low tax & ins . £2695
- Y FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec S. FSH, alloys, cd, ST24 bodykit sports trim, rare at £1995
- Y VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 SRi Estate. Half leather, alloys £1995
- Y FORD Focus 1.8 CL T/Diesel Estate. P/steering, e/pack, superb economy, very versatile estate at £1995
- X CITROEN PICASSO 2.0 TDi SX in brilliant silver, 50+mpg £2995
- X VW Passat 1.8 20 Valve Sport. A/con, alloys, cd player, e/pack, plush interior, stunning at only £2495
- X CITROEN Xsara 1.4 low insurance, low tax, low price £1395
- W VW LUPO 1.4S. 70k, FSH, e/windows, p/steering, sports trim, low tax and insurance . . £2995
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GEM sport

West Wales XI take on Colts

AFTER a month-long enforced absence, due to either wet weather or player drought, the West Wales XI were eager to do their best against Swansea Colts.

The all-weather strip meant that play was assured as the recent cloud bursts would not have saturated the playing area. It was sad to discover, however, that, on a level of stupidity close to the recent barbecuers on the strip, batsmen had tried to take their mark by scratching the matting with boot studs as they would on a grass pitch.

As with every other game this year, the captain lost the toss and Cowbridge were put into bat.

The lush, uncut outfield was clearly going to limit scoring and there was a desperate need for batsmen with a robust approach to lofty hitting.

There were a number of double-figure innings, but it was only the welcome return of Guy Parker (who made 29) that allowed Cowbridge to achieve 137 by the last of their 45 overs.

The vital role of strong mature players was again shown by the opposition when the chairman of Swansea Cricket Club scored 67 out of Swansea's 110 runs, excluding extras

of 28, although it should be emphasised that Gethin Davies behind the stumps did all possible to limit byes. There has been a tendency to lose to 'one man teams'.

Guy Parker showed superb control, and in 12 overs conceded only nine runs for two wickets. The fielding was generally good, with only one or two difficult catches going down, but Jason Sami deserved the junior man of the match award with a beautiful run out at right angles to the wicket, giving him only one stump to aim for.

The team would welcome any more senior players who would enjoy the sociable, but keenly fought battles of the West Wales League.

SCHOOL TEAM OFF TO COMPETE AT HICKSTEAD

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School are sending a show jumping team to the Hickstead school championships on August 5.

This will be the first time the school has entered a show jumping team, and they were persuaded to do so by Louise Edwards.

The team members are Louise Edwards, Josh Rees and Bethan Allman. All the riders are accomplished show jumpers at British Show Jumping Association level.

Josh Rees and Bethan Allman represented the Welsh 13.2hh show jumping team at the

home pony international in July at the David Broome Centre in Chepstow.

On the same weekend and venue, Louise won the under-18s class. Josh Rees has also qualified his two 13.2hh ponies for the Horse of the Year show in October.

The team is coached by accomplished show jumper and trainer Martyn Edwards of Spring Meadows, Llandow.

The competition is held at the famous Hickstead showground in Sussex. They will be competing, in the main, against public schools. Cowbridge will be one of only a few comprehensive schools to enter.

The team will be expected to jump a course starting at 1.05pm in the qualifying class, then the top 10 schools jump in the final in the main ring, shadowed by the famous Hickstead Derby Bank.

The team has been kindly supported by local businesses Glamorgan Farm Feed Supplies Ltd, Bridgend; Jenison Sports; Owen Fuels; Red Mills horse feeds; and local plumbing company CS Boxall.

Gareth Williams from Owen Fuels said: "We like to get involved with the communities that we serve, and this was a good way of supporting some loyal customers around Cowbridge."

We are very grateful for the support we have been given, as without this, the team would not be able to go.

LOUISE EDWARDS
(Captain of the show jumping team)

Firsts turn the tide against Pontardawe

A CENTURY opening partnership laid the foundation for this first league victory for Cowbridge Firsts on Saturday – how pleasing it is to report what was, in the end, quite an emphatic victory – let's hope it's the first of many.

Pontardawe won the toss, elected to bat and proceeded to score 201 for 4 in the 50 overs.

The highlight of the innings was a century by opening batsman Jason Davies. It can be deduced from this that it was a difficult day for the bowlers, with the wicket not giving much help.

Nick Davies bowled his allocation of 15 overs for 45 runs, taking one wicket, a well-judged catch by Mike Lloyd at cover.

Will Haines recorded similar figures, taking one wicket; a catch by James Thomas, for 49 runs in his 15 overs. Tom Merilaht bowled 10

overs for 48 runs, while taking two wickets.

This was considered to be a good total on the Cowbridge wicket, but certainly one that was achievable owing to the way the wicket was playing.

After the tea interval, the Cowbridge batsmen set about the task. Tom Merilaht and Mike Lloyd opened the batting and scoring at the rapid rate of five runs per over, they created the partnership that put the team in an excellent position to go ahead and win.

Playing excellent scoring shots all around the wicket, striking 15 fours between them, they put on 109 for the first wicket in just 20 overs. Eventually, the first batsman to be given out was Mike, controversially judged to have been run out.

He had scored 56 runs and his lost wicket brought to an end the best opening partnership of the season so far.

Tom went on to score 46 until he was caught off a leading edge in the

24th over. A few quick wickets then fell in the next 16 overs and it looked to all intents and purposes that the notorious collapse was in progress.

However, when the score was 144 in the 36th over, with the team needing 58 for victory, Nick Davies and Andy Finucane came together.

With sensible batting, astute running and considerable vocal support, they remained at the crease until the winning runs were scored in the 48th over, thus to everyone's relief laying to rest the team bogey.

Nick had scored 21 and Andy 38. A victory that was well-deserved if a little late, as the skipper mused when savouring the win: "It took a long time to come, but it was worth every minute seeing those final runs knocked off. A great team performance."

Next Saturday, the First XI travels to Clydach, the Second XI is at home. As always support is most welcome.

DL

Under-8s A enjoy the summer competitions



Front left: George Williams, Declan Brookes, Thomas Humphreys, Harry Donnithorne

Back left: Hari Hartmann, Sam Duncombe, Sam Green, Edward Lewis, Ben Jones, and Evan Thomas (Gabriel Davies and Connor Williams not in photo).

COWBRIDGE Town under-8 A team have had a very successful season this year.

The boys have trained hard and played well in all their games over the season. They played well in both tournaments they entered last month.

Thanks has to go to their committed team coach Matthew Lewis and assistant Paul Hartmann.

CB

RD

Record entry for Cottrell Park seniors open day

THE sun shone on Cottrell Park on Wednesday, July 15, as a record 302 senior golfers from all over Wales and beyond entered what has become Wales' largest open event for those aged 55 and above.

Such was the demand for places in the competition, which is organised and hosted by the Cottrell Park Seniors Society, that both Cottrell Park's championship courses, the Mackintosh and the Button Gwinnett, were filled to capacity.

On course refreshments, kindly donated by Marks and Spencer and Spar, were supplemented with superb cakes baked by the

ladies section and by Cottrell Park's excellent clubhouse facilities.

Competitors could also take part in a putting competition, supervised by the juniors section, with prizes provided by the Copthorne Hotel chain and HSBC Bank.

The competition on the Button Course was won by Newport Golf Club's Ken Hodges with an excellent 40 points, and the Mackintosh competition went to Cottrell Park's own Trevor Wooding, who carded a stunning 42.

Commenting on a successful day, Cottrell Park Seniors captain Alan Crossley, said: "We were very lucky with the weather and everyone had an enjoyable day. We were proud to receive so many appreciative comments from our 222 visitors."

"Grateful thanks are due to the club staff and the club's men's, ladies and junior sections who, together with senior society members, gave tremendous support to all aspects of this major event."

The full results were: Button competition – winner – Ken Hodges (Newport), 40 points; runner-up Chris Stanlake (Cottrell Park), 40; third Viv Helyar (Cottrell Park), 39; fourth Iain Ross (Cottrell Park), 39.

Longest drive – John Webb (Pennard). Nearest the pin (16th hole) G Davies (Carmarthen); nearest the pin (2nd hole) John Richardson (Pennard).

Mackintosh competition – winner Trevor Wooding (Cottrell Park),

42 points; runner-up Mike Watkins (Pontypridd), 39; third Alan Richards (Pontypridd), 38; fourth Roger Evans (Cottrell Park), 38.

Longest drive – Alan Richards (Pontypridd). Nearest the pin (8th) J Spurry (Monmouth); nearest pin (15th) Mike Dew (Machynys).

Button putting competition – winner: Dennis Pewtner (Peterston Lakes).

Mackintosh putting competition – winner: Brian Pritchard (Cottrell Park).

In addition, all putting competitors entered a prize draw and the winners were Jim Hill of Pontypridd and Tony Johns of Cottrell Park. JFC

Cottrell Park Ladies Day

A TOTAL of 78 ladies played a 4-ball, better ball competition at Cottrell Park Ladies open day on July 16.

The winning team of Faith Crookes (CP) and Di Burlington (Royal Porthcawl) were clear winners with 45 points; 2nd Eleri Smith-Jones and Annette Campbell (Radyr) 41 points on the back nine from Denise Lloyd and Jane Lott 41 points (St Andrews Major).

Faith Crookes had an excellent day, also winning nearest the pin on both the 8th and the 15th holes.

The longest drive was won by Joanne Radcliffe (Pennard). Seven ladies had birdies on the par 3s and received golf balls.

CB

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